State of Montana Office of the Legislative Auditor

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Financial-Compliance Audit for the Two Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 1987

This report contains recommendations for improving compliance and management controls. These recommendations include:

- ➤ Establishing a control system to monitor compliance with state laws and regulations
- Ensuring the department's compliance with federal rules and regulations
- Maintaining accounting records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles



Direct comments/inquiries to Office of the Legislative Auditor Room 135, State Capitol Helena, Montana 59620



FINANCIAL-COMPLIANCE AUDITS

Financial-compliance audits are conducted by the Office of the Legislative Auditor to determine if an agency's financial operations are properly conducted, the financial reports are presented fairly, and the agency has complied with applicable laws and regulations which could have a significant financial impact. In performing the audit work, the audit staff uses standards set forth by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the United States General Accounting Office. Financial-compliance audit staff members hold degrees with an emphasis in accounting. Most staff members hold Certified Public Accountant (CPA) certificates.

The Single Audit Act of 1984 and OMB Circular A-128 require the auditor to issue certain financial, internal control, and compliance reports regarding the state's federal financial assistance programs, including all findings of noncompliance and questioned costs. The Office of the Legislative Auditor issues a biennial Single Audit Report for the state of Montana which fulfills those requirements on a statewide basis. The audit report presented here is therefore not intended to meet all reporting requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1984 and OMB Circular A-128.

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STATE OF MONTANA



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June 1988

JIM PELLEGRIN! Performance Audit

The Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature:

This is our financial-compliance report on the Department of Commerce's financial activity for fiscal years 1985-86 and 1986-87.

The report contains recommendations concerning compliance with state and federal laws and regulations, improvements in internal controls, and maintenance of accounting records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

The department's written response to the audit recommendations is included in the back of the audit report. We thank the director and the department staff for their cooperation and assistance throughout the audit.

Respectfully submitted,

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Office of the Legislative Auditor

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Financial-Compliance Audit for the Two Fiscal Years Ended June 30, 1987

Members of the audit staff who participated in this audit are Vickie Rauser, Laurie Andres, Laurie Evans, Geri Huschka, Wayne Kedish, Rich McRae, and Lisa Warburton.

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<u>DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</u> <u>APPOINTIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS</u>

Keith Colbo Director

Andy Poole Director of Operations

James Kemble Administrator

Business Regulation and Licensing Division

William J. Fogarty Administrator

Transportation Division

Michael D. Ferguson Administrator

Aeronautics Division

Fred Flanders Administrator

Financial Division

Carolyn Doering Administrator

Management Services Division

Carol Daly Administrator

Business Assistance Division

Newell Anderson Administrator

Local Government Assistance Division

Dave Lewis Executive Director

Investment Division

Jerry Hoover Administrator

Montana Health Facilities Authority

Sam Hubbard Executive Director

Montana Science and Technology Alliance

Richard Kain Administrator

Housing Division

Diana Dowling Director

Montana State Lottery

John Wilson Administrator

Montana Promotion Division

Sandy Courtnage Administrator

Office of Research and Information Services

John Willems Bureau Chief

Video Gaming Control Bureau

Donald Clayborn Coordinator

Coordinator of Indian Affairs

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

This listing serves as a means of summarizing the recommendations contained in the report and the audited agency's reply.

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Recommendation #1 The department implement procedures to ensure the gross housing rents comply with federal regulations.	8
Agency Response: Concur. See page 49.	
Recommendation #2 The department adequately safeguard housing assistance payment "hold" warrants.	9
Agency Response: Concur. See page 49.	
Recommendation #3 The department implement procedures to ensure monthly housing assistance payments are proper.	9
Agency Response: Concur. See page 49.	
Recommendation #4 The department establish accounts receivable on its accounting records for all Section 8 Housing assistance overpayments.	10
Agency Response: Concur. See page 49.	
Recommendation #5 The department compile financial information using a consistent cutoff date for the annual Community Development Block Grant performance reports.	11
Agency Response: Concur. See page 50.	
Recommendation #6 The department:	
A. Correct the error on the Section 8 report.	11
Agency Response: Concur. See page 50.	

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS (continued)

	<u>Page</u>
B. Submit reports within the time frame established by the federal grantor agency.	11
Agency Response: Conditionally concur. See page 50.	
Recommendation #7 The department implement procedures to ensure compliance with contracted services laws and regulations.	13
Agency Response: Concur. See page 50.	
Recommendation #8 The department continue to review its indirect cost proposals to ensure all carry-forward adjustments are included.	14
Agency Response: Concur. See page 51.	
Recommendation #9 The department implement a control system which will provide assurance of compliance with applicable statutes and Administrative Rules.	17
Agency Response: Conditionally concur. See page 51.	
Recommendation #10 The department:	
A. Comply with established internal control procedures to ensure accurate processing of financial data and adequate safeguarding of assets.	20
Agency Response: Concur. See page 51.	
B. Implement additional internal controls over cash receipts to ensure revenue is recorded in the proper fiscal year.	20
Agency Response: Concur. See page 51.	

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS (continued)

	Page
Recommendation #11 The department continue to work towards maintaining its accounting records in accordance with state law.	25
Agency Response: Concur. See page 52.	
Recommendation #12 The department:	
A. Seek legislation to clarify lottery statutes.	29
Agency Response: Partially concur. See page 52.	
B. Recognize prize expense related to the free ticket prizes.	29
Agency Response: Conditionally concur. See page 52.	

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INTRODUCTION

We performed a financial-compliance audit of the Department of Commerce for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1987. The accompanying financial schedules include activity related to the Board of Housing (BOH), the Montana Economic Development Board (MEDB), and the Montana Health Facilities Authority (MHFA) which are audited separately each fiscal year. The audits of MEDB and MHFA for fiscal years 1985-86 and 1986-87 were performed by our office; the BOH audit was performed by a private CPA firm under contract with our office for each of the two fiscal years.

This audit of the department also included the Montana Lottery which began its first game June 24, 1987. We included the fiscal year 1986-87 Lottery activity in this audit due to the start-up costs incurred during the year. State law requires the Lottery to have an annual financial audit, the first of which will be for fiscal year 1987-88. In addition to the financial audit, state law also requires the Office of the Legislative Auditor or its representatives to observe lottery drawings, to complete a performance audit of security after nine months of operation and every two years thereafter, and to test compliance with applicable statutes. We have contracted the Lottery audit work required for drawings and the financial audit for fiscal year 1987-88. We will perform the security and compliance audits.

BACKGROUND

The Department of Commerce (department) consists of several divisions as well as several units attached to the department for administrative purposes. At June 30, 1987, the department had 292 employees on its payroll, including part-time and temporary employees. The authorized full-time equivalent (FTE) for the 1987 biennium was approximately 276; authorized FTE for the 1989 biennium is approximately 344.

The department's organization chart as of July 1987 is on page 5. Since the previous audit report was issued, the department has received responsibility for additional activities. The most significant of these changes are the transfer of the Board of Investments from the Department of Administration to the department as of July 1, 1987, and the creation of the Montana State Lottery. Other changes include transfer of the Board of Outfitters from the

Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks as of October 1, 1987; the Video Gaming activity from the Department of Revenue as of April 1, 1987; and the Tramway licensing function from the Department of Administration as of July 1, 1987. Following is a description of the various divisions and offices administered by the department.

<u>Director</u> - administers the department and its divisions. Attached to the director's office are the Management Services Division, the Indian Affairs Coordinator, the County Printing Board and the Office of Legal and Consumer Affairs. Also attached is the Office of Research and Information Services which includes the Census and Economic Information Center and the Governor's Council on Economic Development, the Horse Racing Bureau, and the Video Gaming Bureau. The director is also the chairman of the Montana State Banking Board.

<u>Business Regulation and Licensing Division</u> - regulates and licenses functions performed by the Building Codes, Milk Control, Professional and Occupational Licensing, and the Weights and Measures Bureaus. The division also licenses private employment agencies and passenger tramways.

Management Services Division - performs the centralized services for the department in the areas of purchasing, accounting, budgeting, payroll, personnel, training, records management, and internal department procedures. The division also provides data processing systems design, analysis, and development for activities within the department.

Transportation Division - provides technical, legal, planning, and financial assistance to transportation users, providers and local governments. The staff also contribute recommendations for development of Montana's transportation system. This is accomplished through various state and federal programs of technical and financial assistance designed to assist shippers, agriculture, the rail and trucking industries, inter-city passenger carriers, urban public transportation, and other transportation providers and users. The division administers the State Rail Plan and maintains Montana's eligibility for general railroad assistance funding.

Aeronautics Division - consists of the Airport/Airways Bureau, the Safety and Education Bureau, and the Aeronautics Board. The Airport/Airways Bureau provides technical and financial assistance to communities in airport development, communications, aviation safety and airport planning; and operates and maintains the state-owned system of navigational aids, and communications facilities. The Safety Education Bureau provides for statewide aerial search and rescue, enforces state law on pilot and aircraft registration, and provides for various education and training programs.

Montana Promotion Division - promotes Montana as a vacation destination and industrial and business location site. Produces publications, print, radio, television, and outdoor and collateral advertising. Provides

information services for inquiring public, and serves as a liaison with the private sector. The division also promotes Montana as a film location for motion pictures and commercials.

Business Assistance Division - performs comprehensive services that constitute the direct technical assistance component of the Build Montana Through seven programs, the division Feonomic Development effort. assists in the promotion and marketing of Montana products on a local, state, regional and national basis; helps businesses market their products outside the United States through an aggressive International Trade Program; provides technical assistance to new and existing Montana businesses with financial packaging and planning; and serves as a single The division also provides federal contact for business licensing. through the contract procurement opportunities contracting system; conducts promotion and recruitment efforts to relocate out-ofstate firms; and works closely with local development organizations to retain, expand and recruit business. The division supervises staffing of the Montana Ambassadors.

<u>Financial Division</u> - consists of the State Banking Board and staff who are responsible for chartering, licensing, supervising, and examining state banks, saving and loan associations, credit unions, consumer loan licensees, and sales finance companies and Montana development companies/boards.

Local Government Assistance Division - operates twelve direct service and financial assistance programs. The Community Development Bureau provides assistance to local governments, private developers, and citizens public works, planning and financing, land use and in the areas of: development regulation, capital improvement planning, local government issues, research and development, and economic development. The bureau includes the Coal Board, the Hard Rock Mining Board, the Community Development Block Grant Program and the Technical Assistance Program. The division administers the Federal Section 8 Housing Program which provides decent, safe and sanitary housing to eligible low-income families The division also administers the Local Government and individuals. Audit Program which performs financial and compliance audits of Montana counties, cities, towns, school districts and special taxing districts; and the Local Government Systems Program which exists to implement, and maintain uniform budgetary, accounting and reporting systems for cities, towns, counties, school districts, and single purpose districts. The District Court Reimbursement Program is the responsibility of this division.

Montana State Lottery - is responsible for the promotion, regulation and enforcement of the Montana State Lottery. The Lottery Commission is responsible for adopting administrative rules relating to the lottery.

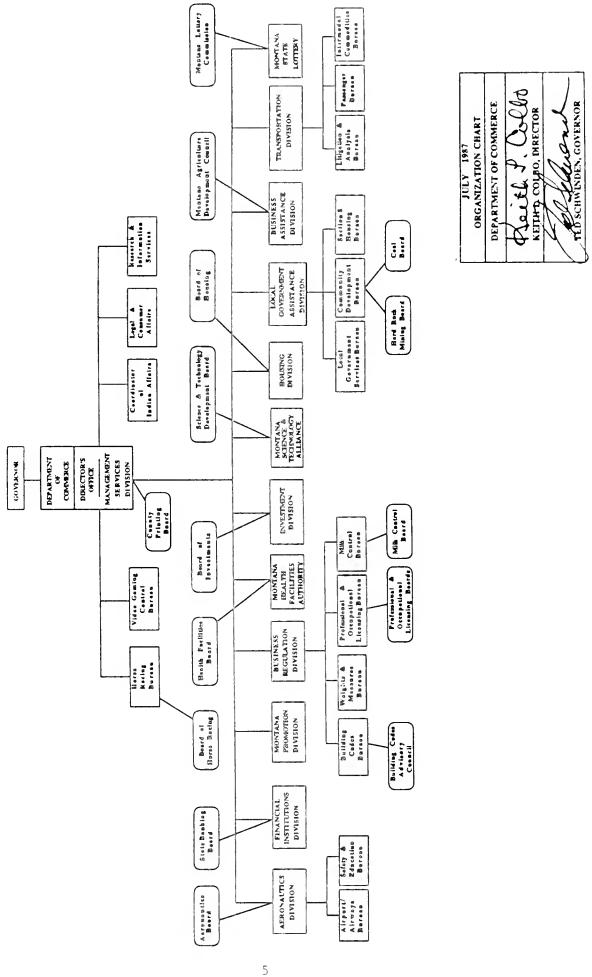
<u>Housing Division</u> - The Board of Housing is established to provide decent, safe, sanitary housing in the state within the financial capabilities of lower income persons and families. Public moneys are made available

through the issuance of revenue bonds to assist private enterprise and governmental agencies in meeting critical housing needs.

Montana Health Facilities Authority - issues revenue bonds and notes to finance capital projects for public and private nonprofit health facilities at borrowing rates below those otherwise available.

Montana Science and Technology Alliance - created to stimulate economic development in the state by providing financial support in the form of investments to organizations and companies seeking to develop technology-based businesses.

Investment Division - has sole authority to invest funds in accordance with the Montana Constitution and statutory requirements. The Board of Investments administers the Coal Tax Loan Program, the Montana Capital Companies Program, the Industrial Development Revenue Bond Program, and the Municipal Finance Program. The board manages programs which make loans, provide for the issuance or backing of bonds and issue tax credits to encourage economic development in Montana.



PRIOR AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

We performed the audit of the department for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1985. The audit report contained 14 numbered recommendations comprised of 19 individual recommendations of which 18 were still applicable to the department. The department concurred with 15 and partially or conditionally concurred with 3. The department implemented 12, partially implemented 5, and did not implement 1. The recommendation not implemented dealt with a central cash receiving function. The department requested the necessary funding from the 1987 Legislature but did not receive it.

Prior audit recommendations not fully implemented concern submitting federal reports on a timely basis, establishing procedures to ensure all revenues are properly accrued at year-end, depositing cash receipts on a timely basis, and recording all financial activity on the Statewide Budgeting and Accounting System (SBAS). These issues are discussed on pages 11, 18, 19, and 21, respectively. A prior audit recommendation, not fully implemented, which concerns establishing procedures to reasonably estimate revenues is not included in this report but has been communicated to department management.

The Local Governmental Services (LGS) function was transferred from the Department of Administration (DofA) to the department as of July 1, 1983. indicated in the department's previous audit report, we recommendations directed toward LGS in the fiscal year 1982-83 DofA audit. Those recommendations dealt primarily with the audit function not complying with generally accepted auditing standards (GAAS) when performing audits of local governments. We contacted LGS and requested the division administrator communicate to us the status of those recommendations. Based on that response and our review of LGS audits it appears LGS has made substantial improvements in documenting the audit work completed. We also noted areas where further improvements could be made. LGS officials informed us the audit function was in the process of implementing an in-house quality control function to monitor its compliance with GAAS and would also be requesting a peer review in fiscal year 1988-89. Both of these procedures should assist LGS in continuing to improve its compliance with GAAS. Therefore, we make no further recommendations to LGS in this report.

FEDERAL COMPLIANCE ISSUES

We tested compliance with federal laws including allowability of expenditures for specific grants. Our procedures were designed to satisfy requirements of the Single Audit Act of 1984 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-128. We specifically tested compliance and expenditure allowability for grants funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the Section 8 Housing Program and the Community Development Block Grant. The following three sections discuss our concerns relating to federal grants. Each section indicates the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number by which the federal government identifies the program.

Federal Section 8 Housing - CFDA #14.156

Initial Gross Rents - The department operates a federal program known as Section 8 Housing, which provides housing assistance to low income families. The program consists of two primary areas referred to as "existing" "moderate rehabilitation" housing. Expenditures in this program totalled approximately \$7.5 million in fiscal year 1985-86 and \$8.6 million in fiscal year These expenditures include administrative costs and monthly payments to approximately 2,600 landlords. We examined a sample of 30 Section 8 payments made to landlords during the audit period. We checked to ensure the initial rent established for the housing unit was not in excess of the established federal Fair Market Rent (FMR) for the county. In two instances, the rent exceeded the FMR by \$44/month and \$7/month, respectively. regulations state the fair market rent established by federal regulations generally shall not exceed gross rent which is equivalent to the rent requested by the owner plus utilities. Federal regulations do allow a housing authority to approve initial rents, on a unit-by-unit basis, which exceed the FMR by up to 10 percent for up to 20 percent of the authorized units.

According to Section 8 personnel, both errors were the result of clerical or review oversights. Therefore, the Section 8 personnel did not make a conscious decision to approve rents in excess of FMR. The errors resulted in overpayments of \$440 for fiscal year 1984-85, \$632 for fiscal year 1985-86, and \$588 for fiscal year 1986-87. Because these payments were not in accordance

with federal regulations, we question their allowability for federal reimbursement.

The Section 8 Housing function is in the process of converting to a new computer system. While the new system should reduce clerical errors, it will not necessarily eliminate them. We discussed with Section 8 personnel the possibility of having an on-screen edit message appear if the gross rent exceeds FMR when the tenant begins participation in the program. We also discussed the creation of an edit report which would list any tenant whose rent exceeds FMR. We recognize there are one time costs associated with the implementation of any of the above edits which would include software enhancement and/or personnel time. However, we believe the benefits outweigh the costs. Such enhancements to the Section 8 Housing assistance payments system will help the department ensure the Section 8 Housing program rents are established in accordance with federal regulations.

RECOMMENDATION #1

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THE GROSS HOUSING RENTS COMPLY WITH FEDERAL REGULATIONS.

Housing Assistance Payment Warrants - Each month, for various reasons, Section 8 personnel hold back some warrants for housing assistance payments to landlords. For example, a warrant may be held because the landlord has not made repairs needed to bring the housing unit up to housing quality standards, or the landlord has not signed the lease and contract after a yearly reexamination. Once the repairs are made or the contracts signed, the warrant is mailed to the landlord. While performing audit work at Section 8, we noticed Section 8 personnel do not keep the "hold" warrants in a secure area such as a locked file cabinet. Because the warrants are not adequately safeguarded, the possibility of the warrants being lost or stolen is greater. The value of the "hold" warrants each month can be as high as \$10,000.

RECOMMENDATION #2

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT ADEQUATELY SAFEGUARD HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENT "HOLD" WARRANTS.

Payment Verification - During the audit period Section 8 personnel had a procedure designed to ensure proper payments were made for moderate rehabilitation housing assistance. Personnel utilized a batch balancing system to reconcile the total payments each month to the total payments made the previous month. During our testing of this procedure, we noted that personnel either did not always reconcile or did not document the reconciliation of the differences between the payments made for one month and those of the previous month. Differences as great as \$1,880 did not appear to have been resolved.

Section 8 personnel have since changed systems by which housing assistance payments are generated. The new system does not provide for a batch balancing procedure and Section 8 personnel did not implement any replacement procedures. Section 8 officials should implement procedures to ensure landlords receive the proper payments. Such procedures could include periodically comparing client files to payments made and taking any necessary corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION #3

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES TO ENSURE MONTHLY HOUSING ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS ARE PROPER.

Accounts Receivable - There are occasions where housing assistance payments are made to landlords in error. For example, if a tenant vacated a housing unit on April 25, the May payment might still have been sent to the landlord because the paperwork had not been processed. Section 8 personnel must receive the paperwork by the 20th of the month to avoid sending the next month's rent. Under present procedures, Section 8 notifies the landlords and requests them to return the overpayments.

Section 8 officials do not request the department's Management Services Division to establish an account receivable when the overpayment occurs, nor is any receivable established at year-end for outstanding overpayments. fiscal year-end 1986-87, the overpayments due from landlords totalled \$7,227. Section 8 officials stated the receivable is not recorded on the accounting records until after two notices have been sent to the landlords. If payment is not received after the second notice, the account is designated as uncollectible and turned over to the Department of Revenue for collection. In order to Housing revenues and expenditures on the reflect the proper Section 8 accounting year-end, Section 8 officials should ensure records fiscal accounts receivable are properly recorded on the accounting records at fiscal year-end.

RECOMMENDATION #4

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT ESTABLISH ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE ON ITS ACCOUNTING RECORDS FOR ALL SECTION 8 HOUSING ASSISTANCE OVERPAYMENTS.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - CFDA #14.228

Federal regulations require the department to prepare vearly performance report for the CDBG. When preparing the federal fiscal year 1984-85 performance report, the CDBG officials did not use a consistent cutoff date to gather financial information for the various projects included in the report. For example, some financial information was compiled for the period August 15, 1985, and other information for the period September 30, 1985. The federal HUD program monitor stated in a letter that states may choose their own cutoff period for the compilation of information in the CDBG performance reports. A CDBG program officer stated that August 15 was selected as the cutoff date but they could not compile all the information at that time so some financial information was compiled as of September 30. The date on the report is August 15.

RECOMMENDATION #5

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT COMPILE FINANCIAL INFORMATION USING A CONSISTENT CUTOFF DATE FOR THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PERFORMANCE REPORTS.

General Federal Reporting Requirements

When the department prepared the fiscal year 1986-87 Section 8 Certificate program (CFDA #14.156) report, it reported administrative expenditures as \$207,811 when the actual expenditures were \$207,118. The overstatement of \$693 was caused by a transposition error when department personnel compiled the grant expenditure information. The transposition error could result in an overreimbursement from the federal government. The department should ensure the proper amounts are recorded on federal reports.

The department submitted a federal report entitled "Voucher Payment of Annual Contribution and Operating Statement" on September 3, 1987. HUD requires this Section 8 report to be submitted no later than the 20th of the month following the close of the state fiscal year. The state's fiscal year 1986-87 accounting records were closed on July 28, 1987 so the report was due approximately August 20, 1987. A department official indicated that it is difficult to have this report prepared within the given time frame due to all of the work required at the beginning of a new fiscal year.

Another report, a quarterly financial status report to the Economic Development Administration (CFDA #11.302), was filed two months after the due date. A department official stated the financial status report was not submitted on time because there was no financial activity for the quarter the report covered.

The prior audit report also contained a recommendation dealing with timely submission of federal reports.

RECOMMENDATION #6

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT:

- A. CORRECT THE ERROR ON THE SECTION 8 REPORT.
- B. SUBMIT REPORTS WITHIN THE TIME FRAME ESTABLISHED BY THE FEDERAL GRANTOR AGENCY.

STATE COMPLIANCE

During the course of our tests of state compliance we identified the following instances of noncompliance with state laws and policies as set forth in the Montana Codes Annotated (MCA), the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM), and the Montana Operations Manual (MOM).

Contracted Services

Our office recently completed a performance audit of contracted services for fiscal year 1985-86. The audit included several state agencies, one of which was the Department of Commerce. In general, the audit indicated contracts appear to be effective, amounts and purposes are reasonable, and modifications are reasonable and not excessive. Results of testing at the department indicate the need for some improvements in the area of contracted services administration.

The department does not always include requirements established in state policy in its contracts. Of the 65 contracts reviewed, 35 did not contain items such as liaison, venue, certification with workers' compensation, agency assistance, schedule of performance, assignment, modification, and ownership. Certification of workers' compensation coverage did not exist for 24 contracts. Department officials stated if certification is not provided, the department automatically provides coverage. This implies the state is making unnecessary expenditures of state funds to provide coverage which should, in fact, have been provided by the independent contractor. Injuries occurring in these cases will be charged against the state's accident record when they should have been charged against the contractor's accident record. There may even be cases of duplicate coverage if the contractor provides coverage but did not certify this the department. Rather than automatically providing coverage, the department should obtain the required certification.

The department paid eight contractors on a regular wage basis, exerted control over their duties, paid Workers' Compensation/Unemployment Insurance, and provided office equipment and work space. These factors result in an employer/employee relationship. In those cases where an employer/employee relationship exists when the department's intention was an independent

contractor relationship, the state is potentially liable for other employee benefits and withholding.

The department entered into several contracts without following state purchasing procedures. Section 18-4-221, MCA, requires the Department of Administration's Procurement and Printing Division to "procure or supervise the procurement of . . . services needed by the state . . . except those which we specifically delegated to user agencies." The performance audit indicated although the department has policies and procedures concerning the use of contracted services, these guidelines cover only internal handling, not the actual content of the contracts. The department could improve its compliance with contracted services regulations. The department should implement additional policies and procedures to ensure contracted services expenditures satisfy applicable state laws and policies.

RECOMMENDATION #7

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH CONTRACTED SERVICES LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Indirect Cost Rates

The department's Management Services Division negotiates an indirect cost recovery rate each fiscal year with the federal government. Section 17-3-111, MCA, requires state agencies to try to recover, to the fullest extent possible, indirect costs of federal assistance programs. When calculating the fiscal year 1985-86 indirect cost rate, the division did not account for a carry-forward adjustment from previous years and thus did not collect as much in indirect costs as it could have. Division personnel responsible for the calculation stated the carry-forward adjustment was inadvertently left out of the plan. This was due primarily to a change in procedure when the division automated the plan for the first time in fiscal year 1985-86. The error affects all federal programs. The department's primary federal programs are the HUD Section 8 Housing Program (CFDA #14.156) and the HUD Community Development Block Grant (CFDA #14.228).

The amount of undercollection in fiscal year 1985-86 was \$57,676 and \$148 in the internal service fund and general fund, respectively. The division included the carry-forward adjustment in its fiscal year 1987-88 indirect cost proposal.

RECOMMENDATION #8

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUE TO REVIEW ITS INDIRECT COST PROPOSALS TO ENSURE ALL CARRY-FORWARD ADJUSTMENTS ARE INCLUDED.

Other State Compliance Issues

The situations discussed below are instances where the department or its administratively attached boards were not in compliance with the referenced regulations and policies. The number of instances of noncompliance among the various boards and divisions indicates the need for a control system whereby the department and its divisions can monitor compliance. A compliance control system is particularly important for an agency the size of the department because of the complexity and wide range of the activities for which it is responsible.

- Ι. Horse Racing licensees do not remit 1% of gross receipts and 2% of exotic wagering receipts in accordance with state law and state policy. Section 23-4-304, MCA, requires the licensees to pay 1% of gross receipts to the department within five days after receipt. Section 8.22.1623, ARM, states the licensee shall pay to the department 2% of all betting money derived from exotic wagering within five days after collection. According to department personnel the practice has always been for the licensees to remit the money to the department at the end of the race meet; licensees find it too cumbersome to геmit money within five days of collection. Department personnel believe the board considered legislation to amend the statute in 1983, but no action was taken. Department personnel also believe the intent of the law was to make the deposits at the end of the meets.
- 2. The Board of Horse Racing members were paid \$50 per day plus travel expenses during the audit period. General statutes governing a board member's reimbursement provide for \$50/day plus travel expenses while on state business unless otherwise provided by law. The board's position is that the general statutes apply. However, section 23-4-102, MCA, states these board members may be

reimbursed \$25 per day plus travel expenses. Board members were overcompensated by a total of \$4350 during fiscal years 1985-86 and 1986-87.

- 3. The Building Codes Division paid its advisory council members \$50 per day for each day they were engaged in the performance of council duties during most of the audit period. Section 2-15-122, MCA, states advisory council members shall be paid an amount not to exceed \$25 a day plus travel expenses. Personnel at the division were not aware that the council members should have received \$25 as they believed the reimbursement was the same as for a member of a board. Council members were overcompensated by a total of \$175 during fiscal year 1985-86. The council held no meeting during fiscal year 1986-87. Division personnel have since taken steps to ensure the council members are paid the amount specified by law.
- 4. The Health Facilities Authority members were paid \$50 per day plus travel expenses during most of the audit period. Section 90-7-201(3), MCA, prior to being amended by the 1987 Legislature, stated the members of the authority were entitled to receive compensation for necessary expenses but were not entitled to receive the \$50 compensation described above. An amendment to this statute, effective March 31, 1987, allows the members to receive \$50 per day as compensation plus expenses. Authority members were overcompensated by \$2050 in fiscal year 1985-86 and \$1150 in fiscal year 1986-87.
- The department paid \$521 more than it should have for a Health 5. Facility Authority board member's travel expenses. State travel regulations require transportation shall be the most economical in terms of direct cost to the state and the employee's time away from the office, and all commercial air travel shall be by the least The department reimbursed a board expensive source available. member \$920 for a first-class round trip airfare and paid \$218 for another employee's round trip coach airfare for the same trip in May 1987. The overpayment is the amount reimbursed to the board member of \$920 less the price of the coach airplane ticket of \$218, less \$181 for lodging, meals, and the statutory \$50 per day board member's compensation. The board member chose to make the travel arrangements due to special circumstances. The department believed it was reimbursing the board member for a coach class airfare.
- 6. The Aeronautics Division did not notify the Division of Workers' Compensation of air search and rescue volunteers. Therefore, the volunteers were not covered by Workers' Compensation insurance as required by section 67-2-105, MCA. The department must have each search and rescue volunteer covered by the Workers' Compensation Act.
- 7. The Board of Private Security Patrolmen and Investigators has not adopted rules to provide for refunding of any fees collected.

Section 37-60-202(3), MCA, requires the board to adopt and enforce reasonable rules for establishing application and examination fees for original or renewal licenses, registration, and identification cards, and to provide for refunding of any such fees. Because rules for providing refunds do not exist, the potential for inconsistent refunding exists.

- 8. The Board of Private Security Patrolmen and Investigators meets at least annually; however, it does not hold an election each year for the chairman and secretary. According to the board's administrative assistant, the board has discussed the positions every year but has been satisfied with the present chairman and secretary and has not considered it necessary to re-elect them annually. These discussions have not been documented in the board's minutes. Section 37-60-201, MCA, states the board is to meet annually and elect a president and secretary from among the seven members.
- 9. Approximately two years ago the Division of Aeronautics determined that the amount of liability insurance required for commercial air operators would be the same as that required in federal regulations. Section 67-3-402, MCA, requires the department to establish reasonable rates. The division did not revise the administrative rule which implements the statute (by publicizing the amount of liability insurance required) to reflect the currently enforced coverage until we brought the inconsistency to its attention. The rule was revised as of September 30, 1987.
- The Building Codes Division has not implemented standard procedures 10. for power suppliers to notify it when an installation has been Section 50-60-606, MCA, states, "Immediately after an installation has been energized, the power supplier shall deliver to department of commerce the inspection tag covering the Building codes inspectors put a tag on an installation installation." after they have inspected it. The tags have "Do Not Remove" printed on them and building codes personnel want the tags left on the installation to provide evidence the unit has been inspected. However, by not being able to remove the tags to send to the department notifying them of an energized installation, department is not in compliance with the above referenced law. The department could develop a two part tag which would allow for documenting both inspections and notifications. Another option is to seek legislation to amend or repeal section 50-60-606, MCA.
- 11. The Board of Social Workers has not adopted rules of professional and ethical standards for licensed masters of social work as required by section 37-22-201, MCA. Not having written rules for professional and ethical standards for social workers creates a potential for inconsistent decisions regarding the licensing of social workers.
- 12. In fiscal year 1985-86, the Board of Social Workers issued renewal notices at \$75 for an annual renewal rather than \$150 for a biennial

renewal period. The Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) state that the biennial renewal fee shall be \$150. According to the board's administrative assistant, the renewal notices for professional counselors were sent to the social workers. The board had to obtain an inter-entity loan of \$11,000 to cover its expenses for fiscal year 1985-86 because it did not collect the proper amount of license fees. In October 1987, the board sent a letter to all social workers explaining the error, and requested the payment of funds to equal the total renewal fees as established in the ARMs.

13. Section 8.70.1401, ARM states the fee for a fireworks wholesaler's permit is \$110; however, in fiscal year 1986-87, the department charged only \$55 for the permit. A department official stated the reason for charging the lower fee was because there were approximately twice as many applicants as had been anticipated. The official stated further if the department had charged the fee stated in the ARM, it would have violated section 50-37-104(3)(a) which requires the fee to be set commensurate with costs. Since the department set the original fee based on a good faith effort to cover costs, the applicants should have been charged \$110. The department could then have revised subsequent years' fees. The official indicated to us the ARM would be revised in July 1987; however, as of November 20, 1987, the ARM has not been revised.

The instances of noncompliance described above could have been prevented or detected if the department had had a functioning control system to ensure compliance with state laws and regulations. Such a system should include a periodic review of the applicable statutes and administrative rules. This review would provide assurance of compliance and provide for detection of needed changes to laws or rules.

RECOMMENDATION #9

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT IMPLEMENT A CONTROL SYSTEM WHICH WILL PROVIDE ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE STATUTES AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES.

INTERNAL CONTROL

We reviewed the department's compliance with the internal control procedures it has developed to ensure financial transactions are properly approved and processed. During our review we noted several instances where the department did not follow its procedures or should implement procedures.

These instances deal with the coding on revenue and expenditure transactions and timely deposits of cash receipts.

We traced an initial sample of 50 revenue transactions from the accounting records to the source documents and noted 2 of these were not processed as coded on the source document. The department's usual practice is to note any changes made to the transactions after they have been submitted for processing either on the document itself or on an edit report attached to the document. Neither procedure was used on the transactions in question. In the first case the department credited the wrong special revenue account with revenue. In the second case the transaction was properly recorded on the accounting records but there was no evidence to indicate how this had happened. The department should follow its procedures to ensure transactions are completely and accurately processed.

We noted three instances where the department did not recognize revenue in the proper fiscal year. Similar issues were reported in the prior audit Two of the instances relate to the Board of Horse Racing; the third The Board of Horse Racing received revenues for relates to Video Gaming. races held in May and June, 1986 and 1987 early in July of each year. However, the board did not inform the Management Services Division as to which year the revenue related. Therefore, the revenue for each fiscal year was recorded as revenue of the subsequent year; e.g. money received for races held in May and June 1986 was received in July 1986 and was recognized as fiscal year 1986-87 revenue rather than fiscal year 1985-86 revenue. errors caused understatements of revenue in the special revenue fund of \$30,027 in fiscal year 1985-86 and \$32,181 in fiscal year 1986-87. year's revenues would be overstated by the same amounts. The department should strengthen its internal controls by requesting the various divisions to explain to which fiscal year revenues belong on documents processed during the last weeks of one fiscal year and the first few weeks of the next fiscal year.

Video Gaming revenues of \$32,200 for fiscal year 1986-87 were recognized in fiscal year 1987-88. The Video Gaming Bureau is new to the department. The Management Services Division informed the personnel there that cash received as of June 30, 1987, was to be to the division by the end of the working day, but if the deposit couldn't be made, they were to let the division

know so an adjustment could be made. The Video Gaming personnel did not submit a deposit and did not contact the division with any adjustments. However, there was enough information on the supporting documentation to determine the appropriate coding. Department procedures include a review of support to ensure personnel properly code documents.

We noted four instances of errors involving payroll processing. instances related to overtime and compensatory time. In the first instance, payroll personnel charged nine hours of overtime to an inappropriate account in fiscal year 1985-86. The two accounts involved were the Boards of Dentists and Architects, both of which are accounted for in the special revenue fund. The Board of Dentists should have recognized the expenditure rather than the Board of Architects. The second error involved a Section 8 Housing (CFDA #14.156) employee who should have been credited with 1.5 hours of compensatory time but was actually credited with 2 hours. Payroll personnel indicated these errors were due to oversight. The last two instances concerned supporting documentation which indicated the expenditures should have been charged to an account other than the one actually charged. Although these errors did not result in material misstatements, payroll personnel should take care to ensure the appropriate accounts are charged for the appropriate amounts as indicated by the supporting documentation. The individual responsible for reviewing and approving payroll documents should review for these types of errors.

The last errors to be dealt with in this section concern timely deposits of cash receipts. This issue was addressed in the prior audit report and the department has since made substantial improvements in this area. State law requires cash receipts to be deposited in a timely manner. Section 17-6-105, MCA, and MOM section 2-1210.22 and department policy specifically require at least weekly deposits. The law also requires deposits to be made daily when coin and currency exceed \$100 and to be made whenever total cash collections exceed \$500. We could not determine whether three boards were in compliance with the statute and policies. Administrative assistants for the Boards of Radiologic Technicians, Professional Engineers, and Electrical Safety appear to be logging a week's worth of receipts on the day the deposit is made as the log books consistently show entries for only the day a deposit is made. The administrative assistants have no procedures for identifying when collections

meet the deposit criteria. The assistants indicated they always deposit daily during busy registration periods but during the slower periods daily receipts are logged in less often. All assistants indicated they were aware of the deposit criteria.

While completing audit work related to the lottery, we determined the lottery personnel were not restrictively endorsing and depositing lottery application fees as required by the statute and policy referred to above. lottery application fee is described as a nonrefundable fee; however, lottery personnel did not endorse or deposit the checks received from potential retailers until they determined the application was complete. Since the application fee is nonrefundable as stated in the information packet distributed to potential retailers, the checks should be endorsed immediately upon receipt and deposited in accordance with state law. Then the application forms can be reviewed for completeness. A form letter could be developed by the lottery, used to identify the incomplete information, and to request the applicant to complete the application. These procedures provide safeguards over cash receipts while still ensuring the applications are reviewed and complete, and thus improve internal controls.

The preceding paragraphs describe areas where the department can improve its compliance with internal controls already in place and where the department can strengthen internal control. The varied activities administered by the department require strict adherence to department policies and procedures to ensure accurate financial information is recorded on the accounting records and assets are adequately safeguarded.

RECOMMENDATION #10

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT:

- A. COMPLY WITH ESTABLISHED INTERNAL CONTROL PROCEDURES
 TO ENSURE ACCURATE PROCESSING OF FINANCIAL DATA AND
 ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDING OF ASSETS.
- B. IMPLEMENT ADDITIONAL INTERNAL CONTROLS OVER CASH RECEIPTS TO ENSURE REVENUE IS RECORDED IN THE PROPER FISCAL YEAR.

ACCOUNTING ISSUES

During the course of our audit work, we identified several accounting issues, some of which resulted in material misstatements in the accounting records and, subsequently, a qualified opinion on the financial schedules presented on pages 32 through 46. The following subsections discuss each of the issues.

Montana Economic Development Board (MEDB)

The fiscal year 1985-86 audit of MEDB revealed several misstatements and misclassifications of activity. The 1985-86 MEDB financial statements were adjusted for these errors and the department corrected the financial records during fiscal year 1986-87 for these errors. The misstatements were due primarily to fiscal year 1985-86 being the first year the MEDB activity was accounted for in an enterprise fund. The following table identifies the misstatements by major category. The misstatements in the general and nonexpendable trust funds relate to misclassifications and do not have an effect on the respective fund balances.

<u>Fund Type</u>	Account Type	Amount Over(under)stated
Enterprise	Assets	\$ (115,306)
	Liabilities	46,132
	Revenues	(128,031)
	Expenses	12,935
	Fund Balance,7-1-85	(20,472)
General	Revenues	1,990,060
	Transfers In	(1,990,060)
Nonexpendable		
Trust	Transfers Out	(1,990,060)
	Revenues	1,990,060

The accounting records in fiscal year 1986-87 for the MEDB do not include all activity from the May 1987 trustee statements. Investments and revenues on the accounting records were understated by \$124,102 as a result. MEDB personnel detected this error when they were preparing the financial statements for fiscal year 1986-87.

Education Trust Fund

During fiscal year 1985-86 the department distributed \$11,495,524 of investment earnings from the Education Trust and Local Impact funds to the Office of Public Instruction (OPI) and to the Board of Regents (BOR). The department records these distributions as transfers out on the accounting records. The amount of money distributed was the cash received from the Board of Investments through the month of June 1986. Transactions processed during the year-end cut-off period were not included in the distributions. Section 90-6-211, MCA, which sets forth the allocation percentages, requires the department to transfer or distribute "investment income."

Investment income includes losses on sales of securities as well as gains and losses from bond swaps. The department did not distribute these items to the designated agencies. In addition, the transfers out during fiscal year 1985-86 to OPI and BOR included cash received from the fiscal year 1984-85 investment earnings accrual. The total amount of transfers out for fiscal year 1985-86 was overstated by \$1,377,769. The department processed transactions during fiscal year 1986-87 to correct for the errors made in the previous year. We noted no problems related to the fiscal year 1986-87 distributions.

Board of Housing

We recommended in the prior audit report that the department ensure all financial activity related to the department be recorded on the department's accounting records. This recommendation was directed specifically to the fact the Board of Housing (BOH) financial information was not completely recorded on the department's accounting records. The department concurred with our recommendation and established the necessary accounts on its financial records.

The information recorded on the accounting records for the BOH, however, does not include all of the activity for either fiscal year 1985-86 or 1986-87. The recorded financial information represents actual activity only through May of each fiscal year. BOH personnel stated they could not obtain June financial information from its various sources in time to allow Management Services Division personnel to record complete fiscal year activity on the department's accounting records. Personnel further stated they do not

prepare accounting entries for the department records until the financial statements for the various bond issues have been finalized. The BOH should be able to prepare accounting entries earlier and thus meet the department's cut-off date for recording transactions on its accounting records. The department should work with the BOH to determine the most feasible method for obtaining this information.

During our field work we suggested BOH personnel attempt to estimate the activity for June. BOH did make this attempt for fiscal year 1986-87. We determined the fiscal years 1985-86 and 1986-87 misstatements in the enterprise funds as indicated below. The substantial difference in the misstatements from fiscal year 1985-86 to fiscal year 1986-87 is a reflection of the BOH's estimation procedures.

	Over (under)	Statements
Account Type	Fiscal Year 1985-86	Fiscal Year 1986-87
Assets Liabilities Revenues and Transfers In Expenses and Transfers Out	\$36,064,131 \$31,406,705 \$(3,513,295) \$(3,493,671)	\$(2,476,728) \$(2,873,286) \$(3,976,150) \$(5,791,898)
July 1 Fund Balance & Direct Entries to Fund Balance Prior Year Adjustments	\$ 1,475,039 \$ 28,661	\$(1,475,039) \$ (55,849)

Central Montana Rail (CMR)

CMR is the organization responsible for the rehabilitation of the Geraldine branch line. The department reimburses CMR for 70 percent of its rehabilitation expenditures relating to the line from a special revenue fund. The other 30 percent of the rehabilitation expenditures and 100 percent of CMR's operating expenditures relating to the line are financed from an expendable trust fund. The financing arrangements were agreed to via a settlement agreement between the department and Burlington Northern Railroad.

During the audit period, the department advanced moneys to CMR for future operating and rehabilitation expenditures from the expendable trust funds. The department records these transactions as expenditures. When CMR actually incurs the expenditures, it notifies the department. At that time, the

department processes accounting documents to record the expenditures in the appropriate accounts. This method resulted in misstatements of assets, liabilities, expenditures, fund balance, and prior year adjustments for both fiscal years 1985-86 and 1986-87.

The primary reason for the misstatements is the department did not analyze the status of outstanding advances at June 30 in conjunction with CMR's expenditure reports submitted during the fiscal year. At June 30, 1986, expenditures in the expendable trust fund were understated by \$115,976; advances were understated by \$83,872; and beginning fund balance was understated by \$199,848. At June 30, 1987, prior year expenditures were understated by \$461,719; current year expenditures were overstated by \$96,785; accrued expenditures were understated by \$135,702; advances were overstated by \$145,360; and beginning fund balance was understated by \$83,872.

We have discussed this situation with the department personnel responsible for monitoring the CMR activity and with personnel responsible for recording the accounting transactions. Both parties indicated that they could monitor the expenditures and advances in order to provide for accurate accounting in the future.

Equipment Capitalization

The asset associated with an equipment purchase in an enterprise fund is recorded in that fund. State laws complicate the accounting entries for an enterprise fund in that spending in this fund type is controlled by the appropriations laws, and the accounting records must be maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. In order to demonstrate compliance with state law, state agencies use two separate expenditure accounts when capitalizing fixed assets in an enterprise fund.

At fiscal year-end 1985-86, the department obligated itself to purchase computer equipment (hardware and software) and therefore recognized an expenditure. The department received the equipment in fiscal year 1986-87 and capitalized the assets at that time. However, in recording the assets, the department made errors which resulted in a misclassification between current year expenditures and prior year expenditure adjustments of \$51,109. In addition, the department did not consistently use the same expenditure description codes between the initial obligation and the final capitalization.

The initial obligation was coded as a "contracted service;" the final capitalization transaction was coded as "equipment." The individual responsible for coding the transaction in this manner is no longer with the department so we could not determine the reason for the initial coding.

Summary

The above subsections describe various accounting errors made by the department. The number of accounting errors found has decreased from the previous audit, indicating improvements by the department. The department should continue to work towards maintaining its accounting records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as required by state law.

RECOMMENDATION #11

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARDS MAINTAINING ITS ACCOUNTING RECORDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW.

I.OTTERY REVENUE AND EXPENSE RECOGNITION

The Montana Lottery designs each lottery game individually. The odds of winning a particular prize are, therefore, not the same from game to game. Actual sales and prize payouts will also vary depending on the level of play.

We reviewed the lottery's financial activity for fiscal year 1986-87. The results of our review identified concerns related to revenue and expense recognition and to compliance with statutory provisions for the lottery. This report section discusses our concerns using the first lottery game for illustration.

Books of lottery tickets for the first game contained 500 tickets. Retailers purchased these books for \$335. This price was determined based on the average number of low tier prizes and free tickets per book as each book of lottery tickets contains a different number of winners. Lottery personnel calculated the purchase price as follows:

Value of tickets (\$1/ticket)	\$500
Less: Low tier prizes*	<90>
Free tickets	<50>
Commission**	<u><25</u> >
Amount paid by retailer	\$ <u>335</u>

*\$2 and \$5 winners which the retailers pay from money received through ticket sales to the consumer.

**5% of the face value of tickets sold to the retailers.

The Montana State Lottery recognizes revenues at the point of sale to the retailers. The amount of revenue recorded is \$.90 per ticket instead of \$1 per ticket because lottery personnel do not believe there is revenue and expense related to a free ticket. Lottery personnel stated the free ticket is not a monetary prize and is only a second chance to win a monetary prize. Section 23-5-1017(3), MCA, states, "Tickets and chances must be paid for in cash." A literal interpretation of this statute suggests the lottery cannot legally give away lottery tickets as a second chance to win a prize. If the free ticket is designated as a prize the question does not arise. Lottery personnel stated the reason for this statute is to prohibit the purchase of lottery tickets on credit. We believe this law should be clarified to reflect the actual intent.

As of June 30, 1987, the lottery had distributed 5,264,580 lottery tickets Recorded revenue for ticket to retailers, 526,458 of which were free tickets. sales to retailers as of June 30, 1987 was \$4,738,122. The accounting profession has not taken any position, through official pronouncements, on whether or not lotteries should recognize free ticket revenues and expenses. We contacted 22 other states which operate lotteries. Four of these states do Of the remaining 18, 9 states believe not offer free tickets as prizes. lotteries should recognize revenues and expenses for free tickets. these states are presently replacing the free ticket with a one-dollar cash Of the remaining nine states, six do not recognize any revenues or prize. expenses for free tickets and three recognize the cost of printing the free tickets as prize expense. These results indicate the more common practice and the trend is to recognize the revenues and expenses.

Lottery personnel stated that if revenues and expenses were recognized as described above, the lottery would exceed the statutory limits on prize distribution. State law provides for:

- 1. As near as possible to 45 percent of the money paid for tickets or chances be paid out as prize money;
- 2. A maximum of 15 percent of gross revenues to be used for administrative expenses;
- 3. A maximum of 5 percent of tickets sold for commissions to retailers; and
- 4. The balance to be paid to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for distribution as equalization aid to school districts' retirement funds.

The cash prize structure for a lottery game is set to meet the 45 percent target without considering free tickets as part of the payout. tickets are, in fact, prizes, the lottery may have exceeded the prize payout Whether the lottery exceeded the prize limit depends on interpretation of the statute which defines gross revenues and describes the prize payout. Section 23-5-1026, MCA, defines gross revenues as moneys from the sale of lottery tickets and chances, license fees, unclaimed prizes, or any other Section 23-5-1027, MCA, as discussed above states "As near as possible to 45% of the money paid for tickets or chances must be paid out as prize money..." One interpretation is that the phrase "money paid" means all revenues related to a game, including free tickets, in which case the lottery did exceed the 45 percent limit in game one. The payout under this interpretation is 50.5 percent. A second interpretation is that "money paid" means exactly that -- the actual cash which changes hands at the retail level, in which case recognizing revenues and expenses related to the free tickets has no bearing on the 45 percent target.

The lottery statutes do not use terminology consistently. The prize payout is based on "money paid." The administrative allowance is based on "gross revenues" as defined in the statutes. The base for the commission to retailers is not defined. The result is the lottery is inconsistent in its inclusion and exclusion of free tickets for computation purposes. The lottery includes free tickets when computing the commission allowance but excludes them from computations of prize payouts and recognition of prize expense.

The following table illustrates the effects on revenues, expenses, and equalization aid of recognizing revenues and expenses for free tickets (column

2) versus the revenues and expenses recognized by the lottery (column 1). The figures used are those from game one as of June 30, 1987. As illustrated, the only differences are in revenues and prize expense which are offset dollar for dollar.

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
	Revenue	Revenue	
	<u>@ \$.90/ticket</u>	<u>@ \$1/ticket</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenues	\$4,738,122	\$5,264,580	\$526,458
Commission Expense	263,229,	263,229 ₅	-0-
Prize Expense	2,132,154	2,658,612 ³	526,458
Administration Allowance	710,718	710,718	- O -
Equalization Aid ³	1,632,021	1,632,021	-0-

The lottery currently pays commissions totalling 5% of face value of tickets distributed to retailers.

The table above presents commission expense in both cases as 5 percent of the face value of tickets sold. The lottery statutes do not clearly identify the base to which the commission allowance should be applied. If it is the face value of the ticket the lottery is in compliance with section 23-5-1016(10), MCA. If the allowance is to be based on the cash revenues (i.e., the \$.90/ticket) the lottery exceeded the statutory limit. Under this interpretation the maximum commission expense would have been \$236.906 which in turn would have resulted in \$1,658,344 being available for the equalization aid distribution.

 $^{^2}$ 15% of gross revenues from ticket sales as defined in section 23-5-1026. MCA.

³Revenues less expense items.

^{45%} of gross revenues from ticket sales as defined in section 23-5-1026, MCA.

⁵45% of gross revenues from ticket sales per section 23-5-1026, MCA, plus free tickets valued at \$1 per ticket. Since the accounting profession has not issued any authoritative literature the prize expense for free tickets could range from nothing to the cost of printing and distributing the tickets to the face value of the ticket as discussed on page 26.

The statutes identified in this section as having contributed to the inconsistencies in the lottery's operation include the following:

- 1. Section 23-5-1016(10), MCA: "Sales agents are entitled to no more than a 5% commission on tickets and chances sold." The question here is whether or not the sales agents/retailers are entitled to a commission on free tickets.
- 2. Section 23-5-1017(3), MCA: "Tickets and chances must be paid for in cash." The question with regard to this statute is whether the lottery can give away a ticket or chance (see page 26) or whether a free ticket is a prize. If it is a prize the lottery should recognize prize expense.
- 3. Section 23-5-1026, MCA: ". . . The gross revenue from the state lottery, consisting of money from the sale of lottery tickets and chances, ticket or chance sales agent license fees, unclaimed prizes, or any other source, must be deposited in the fund . . ." The term "gross revenue" has caused some interpretation problems as it may not be the same as "revenue" according to generally accepted accounting principles.
- 4. Section 23-5-1027(1)(a), MCA: "As near as possible to 45% of the money paid for tickets or chances must be paid out as prize money..." The question raised here is whether or not non-monetary prizes such as free tickets must be included in the target percentage.

In summary, the above paragraphs discuss topics which should be clarified in the statutes and, potentially, the accounting records. We believe the lottery should recognize prize expenses for free tickets in order to provide complete information in the accounting records.

RECOMMENDATION #12

WE RECOMMEND THE DEPARTMENT:

- A. SEEK LEGISLATION TO CLARIFY THE LOTTERY STATUTES.
- B. RECOGNIZE PRIZE EXPENSE RELATED TO THE FREE TICKET PRIZES.

AUDITOR'S OPINION LETTER AND AGENCY FINANCIAL SCHEDULES

SUMMARY OF AUDIT OPINION

The financial schedules on pages 33 through 47 were prepared from the Statewide Budgeting and Accounting System (SBAS) with no adjustments. The auditor's opinion issued in this report is intended to convey to the reader of the financial schedules the degree of reliance which can be placed on the amounts presented. The opinion we issued on the schedules listed in paragraph seven of the auditor's opinion on page 32, means the reader may rely on the fairness of the amounts presented in these schedules and, therefore, the amounts recorded on SBAS except for those specific items discussed in paragraphs three through five. We also direct the reader's attention to Note 6c to the financial schedules which describes an issue of noncompliance.

The opinion we issued on the Schedule of Additions and Deductions to Agency Fund Assets means the reader may rely on the fairness of the amounts presented on this schedule and, therefore, the amounts recorded on SBAS for this fund when analyzing the department's operations.

STATE OF MONTANA



Office of the Legislative Auditor

STATE CAPITOL HELENA, MONTANA 59620 406/444·3122

DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE AUDITORS

MARY BRYSON
Operations and EDP Audit
JAMES GILLETT
Financial-Compliance Audit
JIM PELLEGRINI
Performance Audit

The Legislative Audit Committee of the Montana State Legislature:

We have examined the financial schedules of the Department of Commerce for each of the fiscal years ending June 30, 1986 and 1987 as shown on pages Our examination was made in accordance with generally 33 through 47. accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We did not examine the detailed transactions supporting the summary transactions recorded on the accounting records for the Board of Housing. The activity recorded on the accounting records for the Board of Housing during fiscal year 1985-86 accounted for 99 percent of the revenues and 96 percent of the expenditures recorded in the Enterprise Fund. Board of Housing accounted for 87 percent of both revenues and expenditures in the Enterprise Fund for fiscal year 1986-87. The Board of Housing's financial statements for each of the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1986 and June 30, 1987 were examined by other auditors whose reports thereon have been furnished to us, and our opinion expressed herein, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Board of Housing, is based solely upon the reports of the other auditors.

As described in Note I to the financial schedules, the department's financial schedules are prepared in accordance with state accounting policy. Accordingly, the accompanying financial schedules are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

The department did not record all of the Board of Housing activity for both fiscal years under audit. Enterprise Fund activity was misstated as follows:

		Amount
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Account</u>	Under)Overstated
1985-86	Fund Balance 7-1-85	\$(1,920,883)
	Direct Entries to Fund Balance	6,626,594
	Budgeted Revenues & Transfers In	812,574
	Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers In	(4,325,869)
	Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers Out	1,100,321
	Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers Ou	it (4,593,992)
1986-87	Fund Balance 7-1-86	4,657,428
	Direct Entries to Fund Balance	(6,132,467)
	Budgeted Revenues & Transfers In	1,549,532
	Nonbudgeted Revenues & Transfers In	(5,525,682)
	Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers Out	(256,802)
	Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers Ou	it (5,535,096)

The department improperly recorded some transactions related to the Montana Economic Development Board. These errors affected the Enterprise, Nonexpendable Trust, and General funds.

Fiscal			Amount
<u>Year</u>	<u>Fund</u>	<u>Account</u>	(Under)Overstated
1985-86	General	Budgeted Revenues Budgeted Transfers	\$ 1,990,060 In (1,990,060)
	Nonexpendable Trust	Budgeted Transfers Budgeted Revenues	Out (1,990,060) (1,990,060)
	Enterprise	Nonbudgeted Revenue	(128,031)
1986-87	Enterprise	Prior Year Revenue	
	-	Adjustment	(128,031)
		Fund Balance, 7-1-8 Direct Entries to	6 (150,519)
		Fund Balance	22,488

The department improperly accounted for expenditure activity related to the Central Montana Railroad which is partially accounted for in the Expendable Trust Fund. As a result, in fiscal year 1986-87, prior year expenditures were understated by \$461,719, budgeted expenditures were overstated by \$96,785, and fund balance at July 1, 1986 was understated by \$83,872.

During fiscal year 1986-87, the department moved cash in the amount of \$632,540 from the Nonexpendable Trust Fund to the Expendable Trust Fund at the direction of the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning. The move should not have been made as there was no legal authority to do so. This issue is discussed further in Note 6c to the financial schedules.

In our opinion, based on our examination and the report of other auditors, except for the effects of the matters discussed in paragraphs three through five, the Schedule of Changes in Fund Balances, the Schedules of Revenue and Transfers In - Estimated and Actual for fiscal years 1985-86 and 1986-87, and the Schedules of Budgeted Program Expenditures by Object and Fund for fiscal years 1985-86 and 1986-87 present fairly the results of operations and the changes in fund balances of the Department of Commerce for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1986 and 1987, in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1, applied on a consistent basis.

In our opinion, the Schedule of Additions and Deductions to Agency Fund Property Held in Trust presents fairly the results of operations of the Department of Commerce for the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1987, in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1, applied on a consistent basis.

Respectfully submitted,

James Gillett, CPA

Deputy Legislative Auditor

November 20, 1987



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES FOR THE TWO FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1987

	General Fund	Special Revenue <u>Funds</u>	Debt Service Funds	Enterprise Funds	Internal Service Funds	Expendable Trust Funds	Nonexpendable Trust Funds
FUND BALANCE: July 1, 1985	\$	\$ <u>13,701,836</u>	\$ -0-	\$ (661,638)	\$ <u>165,598</u>	\$ <u>2,956,308</u>	\$ <u>95,089,195</u>
ADDITIONS							
Fiscal Year 1985-86	2,483,513	21,196,647		1,410,926	2,073,720	526,221	10,002,715
Budgeted Revenue & Transfers In	1,382	7,673		60,250,375	2,013,120	320,221	10,346,347
Nonbudgeted Revenue & Transfers In	680,000	1,013		39,716,905			10,540,541
Direct Entries to Fund Balance		40,521		177,045	(1,983)	662	2,092,569
Prior Year Revenue Adjustments	144,426	40,321		177,043	(1,703)	002	2,092,309
Support from State of Montana	6,029,703	15 227 127	10,404,498				8,711,662
Cash Transfers In		15,223,127	10,404,496			109,445	0,711,002
Prior Year Revenue		21,517				107,443	229,033
Prior Year Transfers In Adjustments		(229,033)					227,033
Fiscal Year 1986-87	7 000 (1/	22,526,777		6,747,097	1,982,486	387,572	14,721,783
Budgeted Revenue & Transfers In	3,008,614	23,714		57,494,994	1,762,400	301,312	9,318,096
Nonbudgeted Revenue & Transfers In	403,757	23,114		132,076			40,014
Prior Year Revenue Adjustments Prior Year Expenditure Adjustments	5,721 134,945	30,092		132,010	803		40,014
Direct Entries to Fund Balance	500,000	30,072			156,247	632,540	
Support from State of Montana	12,050,833				130,247	032,340	
Cash Transfers In	12,050,655	9,215,287	9,367,626				943,394
Prior Year Transfers In Adjustments		(12,447)	7,301,020	1,121			12,447
Total Additions	25,442,894	68,043,875	19,772,124	165,930,539	4,211,273	1,656,440	56,418,060
TOTAL MUUTETONS	23,442,074	00,043,073	17,112,124	100,730,037	4,211,213	1,050,440	30,418,000
REDUCTIONS							
Fiscal Year 1985-86							
Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers Out	9,350,978	44,096,373		1,607,675	1,987,154	1,256,228	
Prior Year Expenditure Adjustments	(11,955)	4,232		1,642	517		•
Direct Entries to Fund Balance	•	373,069		·			122,058
Prior Year Expenditures		į					•
Nonbudgeted Prior Year Expenditure Adjustments		(87,100)		(641,519)	138,408		
Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers Out			9,675,248	54,936,375	(15,080)		11,532,726
Nonbudgeted Prior Year Transfer Out Adjustments			,,,,,,,,,,,	21,700,012	(12,000)		97,036
·							•
Fiscal Year 1986-87							
Budgeted Expenditures & Transfers Out	16,102,783	30,633,666		4 247 455	4 000 4/0	201 //	
Prior Year Expenditures	(34)	852		6,213,655	1,889,142	294,665	
Prior Year Transfers Out Adjustments	1,122	672				(461,719)	
Prior Year Revenue Adjustments	,,,,,	78,217					
Direct Entries to Fund Balance		510,190		(400 000			
Nonbudgeted Expenditures & Transfers Out		310,170	0.740.007	6,108,989	6,024		35,818,217
Prior Year Expenditure Adjustments			9,318,096	51,825,260	(65,928)		14,331,483
Nonbudgeted Prior Year Expenditure Adjustment				31,833			
Total Reductions	25,442,894	75 600 /00	19, 007, 777	<u>(69,065</u>)	13,850		829,069
	EF 1776 1074	75,609,499	18,993,344	120,014,845	3,954,087	1,089,174	62,730,589
FUND BALANCE: June 30, 1987	\$	\$ <u>6,136,212</u>	\$ 770 700	¢ /5 35/ 05/	# /00 To:	47 500	
		-1100/212	\$ <u>778,780</u>	\$ 45,254,056	\$ <u>422,784</u>	\$ <u>3,523,574</u>	\$ <u>88,776,666</u>

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SCHEDULE OF BUDGETED REVENUE & TRANSFERS IN - ESTIMATED & ACTUAL

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1987

GENERAL FUND Estimated Revenue	Licenses and Permits \$ 502,900	Charges For Services \$ 10,000	Investment Earnings \$ 2,128,685	Federal Indirect Cost Recoveries \$ 8,000	Merchandis \$ 1,200		Fines & Forfeits	Rentals, Leases & Royalties	Miscellaneous	Grants, Contracts, Donations	<u>Federal</u>	Income Collections <u>& Transfers</u>	<u>Total</u> \$ 2,650,785
Actual Revenue	596,821	8,367	2,387,163	14,940	1,323								3,008,614
Collections Over (Under) Estimate	\$ 93,921	\$(1,633)	\$ 258,478	\$ <u>6,940</u>	\$ 123								\$357,829
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND													
Estimated Revenue		\$2,295,480			\$ 25,300		\$500	\$ 3,138	\$30,000		\$ 30,700,129	•	\$ 35,842,717
Actual Revenue	4,265,425	2,081,651	221,766		27,532	275,820	<u>500</u>	1,938	22,715	574,475	15,054,955		22,526,777
Collections Over (Under) Estimate	\$2,609,075	\$ <u>(213,829</u>)	\$ 22,630		\$ 2,232	\$ (6,864	\$ <u>-0-</u>	\$ <u>(1,200</u>)	\$ <u>(7,285)</u>	\$ <u>(75,525</u>)	\$ <u>(15,645,174</u>) ²	2	\$ <u>(13,315,940</u>)
ENTERPRISE FUNDS													
Estimated Revenue	\$ 40,000	\$1,519,484			\$4,500,000			\$ 40,000	\$21,700			\$195,141	\$ 6,316,325
Actual Revenue	54,900	1,745,206			4,738,120			10,084	22,370			176,417	6,747,097
Collections Over													
(Under) Estimate	\$ <u>14,900</u>	\$ 225,722			\$ 238,120			\$ <u>(29,916</u>)	\$ <u>670</u>			\$ <u>(18,724</u>)	\$ 430,772
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS													
Estimated Revenue		\$1,449,881		\$600,000	\$ 3,500							\$166,119	\$ 2,219,500
Actual Revenue		1,152,644		662,974	1,636							165,232	1,982,486
Collections Over													
(Under) Estimate		\$ <u>(297,237)</u>		\$ <u>62,974</u>	\$ (1,864)							\$ (887)	\$ (237,014)
EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS													
Estimated Revenue		•	\$ 335,860										\$ 335,860
Actual Revenue			387,572										387,572
Collections Over											•		
(Under) Estimate			\$51,712										\$ 51,712
NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS													
Estimated Revenue		\$ 70,000	\$10,681,000										\$ 10,751,000
Actual Revenue		68,909	14,652,874										14,721,783
Collections Over													# 7 070 707
(Under) Estimate		\$ <u>(1,091</u>)	\$ <u>3,971,874</u>										\$ <u>3,970,783</u>

Variance is primarily attributable to a continuing revenue estimate carried forward from fiscal year 1985-86 with a balance of \$550. Actual collections against this estimate during fiscal year 1986-87 were \$2,272,366.

² Variance is due to the continuing revenue estimates which were established to cover three fiscal years.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SCHEDULE OF BUDGETED REVENUE & TRANSFERS IN - ESTIMATED & ACTUAL FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1986

	Licenses and	Charges for Services		Federal Indirect Cost Recoveries			Rentals, Leases & Royalties	Miscellaneous	Grants, Contacts, Donations	<u>Federal</u>	Income Collections & Transfers	<u>Total</u>
GENERAL FUND Estimated Revenue Actual Revenue Collections Over (Under) Estimate	\$ 498,500 478,596 \$ (19,904)	\$ 13,000 11,289 \$ (1,711)	1,991,374	\$ 6,000 1,209 \$ <u>(4,791</u>)	\$ 1,000 1,045 \$ 45							\$ 2,290,844 2,483,513 \$ 192,669
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND Estimated Revenue Actual Revenue Collections Over (Under) Estimate	\$3,952,344 3,907,823 \$(44,521)	\$2,137,156 2,043,014 \$ <u>(94,142</u>)	355,525		\$31,000 23,495 \$ <u>(7,505)</u>	297,971	2,383	\$ 80,000 <u>28,302</u> \$ <u>(51,698</u>)	\$ 380,000 <u>242,642</u> \$(137,358)	\$22,788,225 14,295,492 \$(8,492,733)	\$ 100,000 0 \$ (100,000)	\$30,129,086 21,196,647 \$(8,932,439)
ENTERPRISE FUNDS Estimated Revenue Actual Revenue Collections Over (Under) Estimate		\$1,324,900 1,116,744 \$ <u>(208,156)</u>	0				\$100,000 _59,878 \$(40,122)	\$ 35,000 35,000 \$0			\$ 201,583 199,304 \$ (2,279)	\$ 1,669,183 1,410,926 \$ (258,257)
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS Estimated Revenue Actual Revenue Collections Over (Under) Estimate		\$1,293,150 1,249,787 \$(43,363)		\$600,000 647,526 \$_47,526	\$ 3,500 1,432 \$(2,068)						\$ 174,975 174,975 \$ 0	\$ 2,071,625 2,073,720 \$ 2,095
EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS Estimated Revenue Actual Revenue Collections Over (Under) Estimate			\$ 455,580 526,221 \$ 70,641									\$ 455,580 526,221 \$ 70,641
NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS Estimated Revenue Actual Revenue Collections Over (Under) Estimate		32,803	\$12,316,604 <u>9,969,912</u> \$ <u>(2,346,692</u>)									\$12,349,604 10,002,715 \$(2,346,889)

¹ Variance is attributable to continuing revenue estimates.

			TOK	THE PISCHE	TENA CAPCO VO	742 502 1907																
PERSONAL SERVICES	Business Weight & Licensing/ Measures Regulation Bureau	Division		POL Bureau	Olvielon of Aeronautics	Trensportation Olvision	Assistence	Promotion	Housing Assistance		Research	Locel Government Audit Service	Nenegement Service	Admin.	Codes Division	Indian Affeirs Coordinator.		Board Board	Nt Science & Tech Alliencs	Boerd of Housing	Lottery Oivision	Olrector/ Management Services lotel
Seleries Other Compensation Employee Benefits Total	7,841 52,991 51,795 284,174	\$441,562 450 91,150 533,162	2,500	650,638 58,430 120,509 829,597	\$253,908 3,300 <u>56,624</u> 313,832	79,891 490,983	\$284,602 <u>54,734</u> <u>339,336</u>	49,205 289,413	31,962 189,798	\$ 315,751 7,300 63,179 386,230	\$179,294 1,175 36,486 216,955	\$530,273 106,076 636,349	24.377 147.679	13,486 87,607	\$ 620,837 6,650 140,902 768,389	\$ 46,643 <u>9,188</u> <u>55,831</u>	\$ 47,464 2,200 10,290 59,954	\$177,969 3,400 <u>34,313</u> <u>215,682</u>	\$ 68,560 3,300 12,458 84,318	\$ 296,081 7,300 59,791 363,172	\$ 160,619 2,575 28,571 191,765	\$554,873 \$ 6,048,749 98,600 105,581 1,210,737 660,454 7,366,086
OPERATING EXPENSES Contracted Services Supplies & Materiala Communications Travel Rent Utifities Repeir & Maintenence Other Expenses Goods Purchased for Resale Total	958 10,018 152 15,182 1,022 6,579 351 29,460 1,259 8,722 960 96 13,116 5,094 28,221	14,429 1,569 10,284 110,643 7,207 2,056 57,654	6,701 1,050 7,264 21,144 9,139 1,064 17,733	223,979 18,541 75,423 137,320 39,150 20,975 175,190	193,940 34,080 20,531 22,693 16,176 12,578 23,847 41,950 10,904 376,699	135,613 2,975 13,087 52,357 14,402 2,879 61,277	248,637 4,806 64,048 32,084 12,403 4,604 43,675 2,103 412,360	380,614 3,373 686,936 48,792 16,371 2,798 51,576	36,664 2,645 14,698 5,402 10,550 1,572 12,825 36,395	45,640 5,923 16,671 26,937 14,176 7,381 107,416	12,042 4,766 7,742 12,750 10,759 2,237 25,576	9,656 6,587 16,827 81,681 20,234 2,434 5,660 84,111	71,240 1,940 5,505 14,418 7,074 1,065 1,570 29,518	30 120 2,250 600 77 8,593	20,661 23,349 25,247 51,902 14,978 11,346 121,038 5,039 273,560	6,808 690 6,436 7,801 5,608 1,391 6,318	5,417 2,145 5,180 8,143 4,762 2,251 7,698	21,083 3,003 12,567 9,241 11,923 1,624 23,853	13,389 1,886 8,633 20,687 4,389 1,456 11,108	649,343 8,510 28,960 24,722 29,383 20,459 45,856	725,033 35,013 231,445 27,812 29,652 2,206 21,629 2,167,506 482,170 3,722,446	82,014 2,913,889 6,043 184,348 17,770 1,265,097 9,481 756,421 20,420 308,717 20,835 5,478 166,819 20,893 3,178,249 500,216 162,099 9,314,591
EQUIPMENT AND INTANGIBLE ASSE Equipment Intangible Assets Total	3,785 1,278 3,785 1,278	2,579	5,685	29,462 29,462	2,227	833	33,751 33,751	3,148	1,363	4,167	2,982		792 792		6,500	1,594	388	2,707	3,761	1,099	726,003 23,624 749,627	26,403 860,507 23,624 26,403 884,131
CAPITAL OUTLAY Bufidings Total					50,709 50,709																	50,709 50,709
LOCAL ASSISTANCE From State Sources Total																					84,077 ²	84,077 84,077
GRANTS from State Sources From Federel Sourcee From Other Sources Totel					7,393	69,825 603,860 344,665 1,818,350	5,000		8,276,588	2,397,692 5,239,076 7,636,768			18,780,464						1,366,340 - <u>1,366,340</u>			22,621,714 14,124,444 <u>344,665</u> <u>37,090,823</u>
TRANSFERS Accounting Entity Trensfers Total					2,885 2,805							82,924 82,924	82,308 82,308					173,611 173,611				341,64 <u>6</u> 341,648
DEBT SERVICE Installment Purchases Total														•						1,846 1,846		1,846 1,846
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURES	\$64,492 \$397,730	\$739,583	\$239,391 \$1	,549,637	\$753,665	\$1,792,756	\$790,447	\$1,483,021	8,588,412	\$ 8,251,309	\$295,809	\$946,463	\$19,143,573	\$ 99,277	\$ <u>1,048,449</u>	\$ 92,477	\$ 95,938	\$475,294	\$1,515,967	\$ <u>1,175,350</u>	\$4,747,915	\$848,956 \$55,133,911
GEMERAL FUMO Budgeted Actual Unspent Budget Authority	\$ 4,974 \$410,930 4,974 397,730 \$ 0 \$13,200					\$ 493,994 485,928 \$ 8,066	\$674,173 613,108 \$ 61,065	\$1,162,906 1,094,745 \$ 68,161		\$ 189,979 188,733 \$ 1,246	\$260,296 254,979 \$	\$ 84,789 82,924 \$ 1,865	\$12,597,427 12,595,574 \$ 1,853			\$100,790 92,477 \$		\$176,538 173,611 \$ 2,927				\$123,346 \$16,280,142 118,000 \$5,346 \$16,102,783 \$177,359
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND Budgeted Actual Unspent Budget Authority	\$69,597 59,518 \$10,079	\$740,072 739,583 \$489	\$259,035 \$1, 239,391 1 \$ 19,644 \$,993,448 ,549,637 443,811	\$726,178 718,189 \$ 7,989	\$2,556,390 1,012,163 \$1,544,227	177,339	388,276	8,699,452 8,588,412 111,040	\$20,748,725 <u>8,062,576</u> \$12,686,149	\$ 40,830 40,830 \$0		\$15,225,060 6,352,629 \$_8,872,431		\$1,101,284 1,048,449 \$ 52,835				\$1,657,148 1,515,967 \$		\$ 223,000 140,707 \$ 82,293	\$ 10,000 \$54,900,219 \$ 10,000 \$24,266,553
ENIERPRISE FUNDS Budgeted Actual Unspent Budget Authority					\$ 67,599 35,476 \$ 52,123												\$119,219 95,938 \$ 23,281	\$360,218 301,683 \$ 58,535		\$1,173,468 1,173,350 \$ 118	\$4,615,696 4,607,208 8,488	\$ 6,356,200 6,213,655 \$ 142,545
EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS Budgeted Actual Unspent Budget Authority						\$2,205,491 294,665 \$1,910,826																\$ 2,205,491
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS Budgeted Actual Unspent Budget Authority												\$929,414 863,539 \$_65,875	\$ 274,284 195,370 \$ 78,914	\$101,964 <u>99,277</u> \$ <u>2,687</u>								\$758,022 \$2,063,684 1,889,142 \$27,066 \$174,542
1 Consists primarily of Inter-																						

Consists primarily of lottery prizes, both high and low tier.
Relates to video poker - As of July 1, 1987, video poker expenditures are accounted for in a separate program.
Consists of local Government Block Grents and District Court Funding.

This achedule is prepared from the Statewide Budgeting and Accounting System. Additional information is provided in the notes to the financial achedules on pages 39 through 47.



PEPARIMENT OF COMMERCE SCHEDULE OF BUDGETED PROGRAM EXPENDITURES BY OBJECT AND FUND FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1986

PERSONAL SERVICES Salaries Other Compensation Employee Senefits Jotal	#usiness Veight Licensing/ Result Feature #usiness #usine	5 \$404,798	M1(k Control <u>Bureau</u> 3148,869 \$ 2,800 31,014 182,683	POL Bureeu 603,577 59,525 113,241 776,343	01v1elon of <u>Aeroneutics</u> \$261,602 5,400 <u>55,882</u> <u>322,884</u>	Trensportation Division \$ 401,221	8usinese Assistanc \$294,884 		Housing Assistance \$ 151,493 	Community Assistance \$ 297,743 9,350 57,434 364,527	Research	Local Government Audit Service \$ 560,562 \(\frac{108,939}{669,501} \)	Accounting/ Menagement Services \$ 129,168 - 24,489 - 133,657	sullding todes <u>Pivision</u> s 603,141 6,000 129,521 738,662	Indien Affeira Coordinator \$ 45,808 9,071 54,079	#eelth Facilities <u>Authority</u> \$ 57,027 2,050 11,651 70,926	Economic Development Board \$171,200 4,650 29,520 205,370	#t. \$clence & Tech Allience \$ 65,488 . 3,600 11,726 	8 oard of Housing \$ 261,220 6,650 53,529 321,399	01rector/ Management Legal Services \$432,673 \$214,267 200 78,741 40,575 511,614 254,662	Fotal \$ 5,780,466 102,300 1,136,914 7,019,680
OPERATING EXPERSES Contracted Services Supplies & Materials Communications Travel Rent Utilities Repair & Maintenancs Other Expenses Goods Purchased for Resale Total	1,469 15,083 204 16,150 1,467 6,768 80 30,860 1,196 8,708 50 14,319 5,274 29,629	2,724 6,823 103,386 6,292	23,962 2,807 8,658 26,415 8,423 875 19,312	264,990 20,568 78,311 149,708 40,178 10,483 183,891	47,743 37,736 21,731 20,633 16,115 16,099 18,712 47,203 11,795 235,967	260,297 3,650 17,334 53,618 12,438 5,405 56,824	184,767 3,204 39,141 42,865 12,458 773 47,170	311,411 4,156 749,024 45,060 16,401 2,151 49,030	29,612 3,140 14,740 5,820 9,816 1,424 11,093 28,612	83,131 7,904 21,850 38,386 14,331 4,454 69,869	55,426 6,657 7,486 12,416 8,165 983 21,632	26,050 8,242 16,834 86,605 18,331 2,202 5,242 83,243 266,829	33,862 3,205 6,913 13,974 8,746 1,196 2,566 23,966	81,439 21,369 26,479 66,852 13,251 11,391 120,418 13,261 356,460	2,470 961 7,645 7,316 5,462 2,521 6,602 32,077	9,150 3,665 4,724 9,516 5,349 1,008 9,357	31,651 6,753 14,893 11,663 9,775 1,395 22,801	11,497 3,995 4,820 21,027 2,659 262 12,956	636,363 4,571 27,609 21,982 30,293 1,415 40,124	69,631 6,205 11,980 3,335 12,063 9,006 15,032 3,669 18,897 6,162 5,675 751 7,456 25,652	2,232,538 176,876 1,104,359 787,323 273,446 21,947 102,244 965,873 25,056 5,689,662
EQUIPMENT AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS Equipment Livestock Total	6,500 25,476 6,500 25,476	6,500	10,680	78,126 78,126	9,251 1,600 10,851	10,014	8,640	7,947	91,455 91,455	5,784	8,393	7,615	7,135	138,513	1,915	13,378	13,676	8,005	16,564	20,057 6,500 20,057 6,500	502,124 1,800 503,724
CAPITAL DUTLAT Buildings Total					3.550 3.550																3,550 3,550
GRARTS from State Sources from Federal Sources from Other Sources Fotal					3,540 <u>5,540</u>	75,000 764,438 4,739,408 5,578,846			7,113,869 7,113,869	5,126,183 3,680,476 10,806,659		1,364,933	19,681,088					156,578			26,409,322 13,550,783 4,739,400 44,707,513
TRAKSFERS Accounting Entity Iranafers Total					10.262 10.262							87.767 87.767	87,208 87,208				189,042				374,279 374,279
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDIFURES	165,149 1444,317	\$ <u>691, 118</u>	\$263,613 \$1,	622,596	\$589,054	\$6,478,044	\$689,499	\$ <u>1,467,252</u>	7,491,609	\$ 11,416,897	\$303,747	\$2,376,645	\$20,023,536	\$ <u>1,233,635</u>	\$ 89,671	\$ 127,075	\$507,039	\$_305,613	\$1,100,320	\$672,605 \$316,172	\$ <u>58,298,408</u>
GENEPAL FUND Budgeted Actumi Unspent Budget Authority	\$ 5,051 \$465,712 5,012 444,317 \$ 39 \$ 21,395					\$ 711,882 <u>604,533</u> \$ 107,349	\$713,983 685,541 \$ 28,442	\$1,237,812 1,233,327 \$4,485		\$ 204,173 196,791 \$ 7,382	\$276,901 264,574 \$_12,327	\$1,462,767 1,452,699 \$ 10,068	\$ 4,636,928 4,060,458 \$ 576,470		\$107,428 <u>89,671</u> \$ 17,757		\$191,321 189,042 \$_2,279			\$ 1,471 \$131,190 \$ 1,471 \$ 125,013 \$ 6,185	\$10,146,527 9,350,978 2,795,849
SPECIAL REVENUE FUND Budgeted Actual Unspent Budget Authority	\$70,094 63,137 \$6,957	\$783,846 691,118 \$ 92,728	\$200,083 \$2, 283,815 1. \$ 4,266 \$	317,427 622,596 694,831	\$655,279 526,771 \$128,508	\$6,360,639 4,617,283 \$1,743,356	\$126,500 3,958 \$122,542	_ 233,925	7,491,609 603,993	\$26,148,418 11,220,106 \$14,928,312	\$ 40,000 39,173 \$ 827		\$15,963,000 15,763,634 \$ 199,366	\$1,360,204 1,233,635 \$ 126,569				\$1,963,610 305,613 \$1,657,997		\$ 10,000 \$ 10,000	\$64,707,702 44,096,373 \$20,611,329
ENIERPRISE FUNDS Budgeted Actual Unspent Budget Authority					\$ 93,658 <u>62,263</u> \$ 31,375											\$131,342 127,075 \$_4,267	\$365,682 317,997 \$ 67,685		\$1,129,886 1,100,320 \$ 29,566		\$ 1,740,566 1,607,875 \$ 132,893
EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNOS Budgeted Actual Unspent Sudget Authority						\$3,000,000 1,256,226 \$1,743,772															\$ 3,000,000 1,256,220 \$ 1,743,772
INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS Budgeted Actuel Unspent Sudget Authority												\$1,012,098 923,946 \$ 00,152	\$ 328,205 199,444 \$ 128,761							\$744,519 \$191,237 672,605 191,159 \$71,914 \$ 78	\$ 2,276,059 1,987,154 \$ 285,905

¹ Consists of Cocal Government Stock Grants and District Court funding.

This schedule is prepared from the Statewide Sudgeting and Accounting System. Additional information is provided in the notes to the financial schedules on pages 39 through 47.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SCHEDULE OF ADDITIONS AND DEDUCTIONS TO AGENCY FUND PROPERTY HELD IN TRUST FOR THE TWO FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1987

Property Held in Trust, July 1, 1985	\$ 83,455
Additions:	
Fiscal Year 1985-86, Nonbudgeted Receipts	275,677
Fiscal Year 1986-87, Nonbudgeted Receipts	617,320
Total Additions	892,997
Deductions:	
Fiscal Year 1985-86, Nonbudgeted Disbursements	316,953
Fiscal Year 1986-87, Nonbudgeted Disbursements	581,333
Total Deductions	898,286
Property Held in Trust, June 30, 1987	\$ 78,166

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NOTES TO FINANCIAL SCHEDULES

FOR THE TWO FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1987

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Accounting

The department uses the modified accrual basis of accounting for the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Debt Service Fund, Expendable Trust Fund, and Agency Fund. In applying the modified accrual basis, revenues are recorded when they are received in cash, unless susceptible to accrual. Revenues susceptible to accrual are recorded as receivables when they are measurable and available to pay current period liabilities. Intergovernmental received as reimbursements are recognized based the revenues Intergovernmental revenues received but not earned are expenditures recorded. recorded as deferred revenues or liabilities to the respective governments.

Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, expenditures are recognized when the related liability is incurred except for the following items which are valid obligations under state accounting policy.

- If the appropriation provided funds to complete a given project, the entire amount of a service contract may be accrued even though the services are rendered in a fiscal year subsequent to the fiscal year in which the expenditure is accrued.
- The anticipated cost of equipment is expensed in the fiscal year in which budgeted if a valid purchase order has been issued.
- Goods ordered, but not received as of the fiscal year-end, may be accrued if the purchase order was issued prior to fiscal year-end.
- Obligations for employees' vested annual leave and sick leave are recorded as expenditures when paid.

The accrual basis of accounting is used for the Internal Service Fund, Enterprise Fund, and Nonexpendable Trust Fund. Revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they are earned and become measurable; expenses are recognized in the period incurred, if measurable.

B. Basis of Presentation

The financial schedules were prepared from the Statewide Budgeting and Accounting System (SBAS) without adjustments. Accounts are organized on the basis of funds according to state law. The following funds types are used by the department:

General - accounts for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Special Revenue - accounts for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes. Legislative appropriations are required to be spent from this fund type. This activity includes professional licensing boards as well as other boards administratively attached to the department, airport loans, local government block grant (coal tax money), highways special revenue, county land planning, local impact, banking industry regulation, building codes division, aeronautics division, video gaming, federal grants, and economic development activities such as tourism and business promotion.

<u>Debt Service Fund</u> - to account for accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, long-term debt principal and interest. The department uses this fund type to account for tax moneys which are used to back bonds or to make direct or guaranteed loans to areas affected by coal mining.

Enterprise Funds - to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises -- where the intent of the governing body is that, on a continuing basis, the enterprise be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes. The Enterprise Funds at the department include operations of the Housing Authority, the West Yellowstone Airport, the Health Facilities Authority, the Economic Development Board, and the Montana Lottery.

Internal Service Funds - to account for the financing of goods or services provided by one department or agency to other departments or agencies of the governmental unit, or to other governmental units, on a cost-reimbursement basis. The department accounts for the Director's Office, Local Government Services, Management Services Division, and Legal Services in this fund type.

<u>Trust and Agency Funds</u> - to account for assets held by a governmental unit in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governmental units, and/or other funds. These include Expendable Trust Funds, Nonexpendable Trust Funds, and Agency Funds.

The Expendable Trust Fund accounts for settlement money from the Burlington Northern lawsuit. The fund was established as a result of a trust agreement between the department and Burlington Northern.

The Nonexpendable Trust Fund includes the Education Trust Fund, Instate Investment Fund (coal tax moneys), Coal Tax Loan Loss Reserve, and the BN - Geraldine Settlement.

The Agency Fund includes a consumer affairs account and receipts from horse racing exotic wagering. The horse racing money is for a bonus program for owners of Montana-bred race horses. The money is 2 percent of exotic wagers at each track; exotic is defined as any wager except for win, place, or show.

2. ANNUAL AND SICK LEAVE

Employees at the department accumulate both annual and sick leave. Employees are paid for 100 percent of unused annual and 25 percent of unused sick leave credits upon termination. Accumulated unpaid liabilities for annual and sick leave are not reflected in the accompanying financial schedules. Expenditures for termination pay currently are absorbed in the annual operational costs of the department. At June 30, 1987, the department had an approximate liability of \$575,381 for annual leave and \$253,985 for sick leave.

3. PENSION PLAN

Employees are covered by Montana Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS). The department's contribution to this plan was \$356,788 in fiscal year 1985-86 and \$369,496 in fiscal year 1986-87.

4. GENERAL FUND BALANCE

The General Fund is a statewide fund. Agencies do not have a separate General Fund since their only authority is to pay obligations from the statewide General Fund within their appropriation limits. Thus, on an agency schedule, the beginning and ending fund balance will always be zero for the General Fund.

5. NONBUDGETED ACTIVITY

The following activity is not budgeted by the department.

A.	Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year
	1985-86	1986-87
Enterprise Funds		
Nonbudgeted Revenue	\$60,250,375	\$57,494,994
Nonbudgeted Expenditures	\$54,936,375	\$51,825,260

This activity is from the bonding authority (Housing & EDB). Activity is not budgeted because it is difficult to anticipate activity levels for these programs.

В.	Fiscal Year 1985-86	Fiscal Year 1986-87
Noneypendable Trust Fund	1903-00	1980-8/
Nonexpendable Trust Fund		
Nonbudgeted Revenue		
& Transfers In	\$10,346,347	\$ 9,318,096
Nonbudgeted Expenditures		
& Transfers Out	\$11,532,726	\$14,331,483

This activity is related to coal tax collections received by the Department of Revenue and transferred to the department for the credit of the Educational Trust Fund and the In-State Investment Fund. This activity is in the form of transfers and is not budgeted due to the difficulty of estimation of actual coal tax collections.

6. <u>DIRECT ENTRIES TO FUND BALANCE</u>

- A. The direct entries to fund balance in the Enterprise Fund during fiscal year 1985-86 were made to establish fund balances for activity of the Montana Board of Housing (Housing Division) not previously recorded on SBAS. The majority of the direct entries to fund balance in fiscal year 1986-87 in the Enterprise Fund relate to the Board of Housing's activity recorded on SBAS in lump sum form at the end of the fiscal year.
- B. The direct entries to fund balance during fiscal year 1986-87 in the Nonexpendable Trust Fund are primarily due to a permanent transfer of \$35 million dollars from the Education Trust Fund to the General Fund. The money was transferred to the General Fund by the 1987

- Legislature. The 1987 Legislature also provided for an additional permanent transfer of the \$34 million from the Education Trust Fund to the General Fund during the 1989 biennium.
- C. Direct Entries to Fund Balance in the Expendable Trust Fund during fiscal year 1986-87 are attributable to investment earnings originally recorded in the Montana In-State Investment Fund (a Nonexpendable Trust Fund) from fiscal year 1983-84 through 1985-86. The transfer of these moneys was made at the direction of the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP). The money involved was appropriated to the Montana In-State Investment Fund under section This statute, prior to amendment in 1987, also 17-5-704, MCA. provided these moneys could not be further appropriated except by vote of three-fourths of the members of each house of the legis-The legislature did not appropriate these moneys and, lature. therefore, they should have remained in the Montana In-State Investment Fund. OBPP had no legal authority to direct this transfer.

7. DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAM AND FUNDING CHANGES

<u>Transportation Division</u> - Fiscal year 1985-86 spending authority includes \$3,416,750 of federal railroad rehabilitation funds for the Geraldine branch railroad line. These funds are available on a one-time basis due to an early loan repayment by Burlington Northern Railroad as part of a settlement involving the Geraldine branch line.

Local Government Service Division - The spending authority in the General Fund decreased in the division from \$1.46 million in fiscal year 1986 to \$87,000 in fiscal year 1986-87. This decrease is due to the anticipated elimination of emergency grants for District Courts. District Courts began receiving state funding in fiscal year 1985-86 under Chapter 680, Laws of 1985.

<u>Financial Division</u> - The financial division consists of the State Banking Board and Department of Commerce personnel who are responsible for chartering, licensing, supervising, and examining state banks, savings and loans, credit unions, consumer licenses and sales finance companies. These activities are financed by the regulated institutions and accounted for in the state special revenue fund as of the beginning of fiscal year 1985-86. Previously this activity was funded by the state and accounted for in the state General Fund.

8. BONDS AND NOTES PAYABLE

A. Board Of Housing Revenue Bonds

The Montana Board of Housing (Housing Authority) is authorized to have an aggregate of \$975 million of housing mortgage bonds outstanding. The bonds are payable from mortgage loan payments and investment earnings. All bonds issued to date are secured by federally insured or guaranteed mortgages. Bonds (net) outstanding were as follows:

	June 30, 1986	June 30, 1987
Single Family Mortgage Bonds Multi-Family Mortgage Bonds Total	\$671,060,000 <u>14,639,000</u> \$685,699,000	\$526,080,000 <u>14,545,000</u> \$ <u>540,625,000</u>

Amounts reported for the Board of Housing were reproduced from their audit reports, covering fiscal years 1985-86 and 1986-87 which received unqualified opinions dated August 19, 1986 and August 28, 1987, respectively.

B. Montana Economic Development Board (MEDB)

Bonds outstanding at June 30, 1986 were as follows:

<u>Issue</u>	Balance June 30, 1986
Industrial Development Revenue Bonds (Pooled Loan Program) Series 1984 A - 1984 G (1)	\$ 3,630,000
Industrial Development Revenue Bonds (Pooled Loan Program) Series 1985 A - 1985 L (1)	4,260,000
Municipal Finance Consolidation Act Bonds (Cash Anticipation Financing Program) Series 1985 (2)	18,575,000
MEDB Bonds Payable	\$26,465,000

Bonds outstanding at June 30, 1987 were as follows:

Issue	Balance June 30, 1987
Industrial Development Revenue Bonds (Pooled Loan Program) Series 1984 A - 1984 G (1)	\$ 3,560,000
Industrial Development Revenue Bonds (Pooled Loan Program) Series 1985 A - 1985 L (1)	4,160,000
Municipal Finance Consolidation Act Bonds (Cash Anticipation Financing Program) Series 1986 (2)	27,480,000
Municipal Finance Consolidation Act Bonds (Intermediate Term Capital Program) (3)	6,500,000
MEDB Bonds Payable	\$41,700,000

- (1) These bonds, which may not aggregate more than \$75 million, are limited obligations of the MEDB payable solely from and secured by certain revenues and assets of the MEDB pledged pursuant to an indenture of Trust. The bonds do not constitute a debt, liability or legal obligation of the State of Montana. However, if the balance in the MEDB's "Capital Revenue Account A" falls below the indenture requirement, the Governor is required to request the Legislature to appropriate funds to restore the balance. The Legislature may, but is not legally obligated to, appropriate funds to correct any such deficiency. Principal payments (accrued interest to be added) are due each March 15. Series 1985 J (\$665,000) was recalled on March 15, 1986 without a gain (loss) on extinguishment.
- (2) These bonds were issued to provide funds for the MEDB to finance the purchase of tax revenue anticipation notes (TRANS) of participating local government units. The Series 1985 bonds were due September 27, 1986. The Series 1986 were issued on July 15, 1987. The bonds are limited obligations of the MEDB payable solely from repayments of principal and interest on local government TRANS, proceeds of a loan made to MEDB by the Montana State Board of Investments, and investment income.
- (3) These bonds were issued to provide funds to participating local governments for the purpose of providing intermediate term capital to local governments. The bonds are limited obligations of the MEDB and are payable solely from payments of principal and interest on loans made to local governments, investment income, and amounts derived from an irrevocable loan agreement between the MEDB and the Montana Board of Investments.

9. NO-COMMITMENT DEBT

A. Montana Health Facility Authority (MHFA)

Bonds outstanding at June 30, 1986 and 1987 are as follows:

	Amount	Amount
<u>Issue</u>	<u>June 30, 1986</u>	<u>June 30, 1987</u>
Health Care Revenue Bonds (Pooled Loan Program) Series 1985A Variable Rate Revenue Bonds	\$66,900,000	\$65,900,000
Billings Deaconess Hospital Series 1985 Hospital Facilities Variable Rate	18,000,000	18,000,000
Revenue Bonds		
BONDS PAYABLE	\$84,900,000	\$83,900,000

The bonds are payable solely from loan repayments to be made by health institutions pursuant to loan agreements and from funds created by the Indenture and Investment earnings thereon. The bonds do not constitute a debt or liability of the State of Montana.

Notes outstanding at June 30, 1986 and 1987 were as follows:

<u>Issue</u>	Amount June 30, 1986	Amount <u>June 30, 1987</u>
West Mont Home Health Services, Inc. Series 1985 Hospital Revenue Note	\$427,522	\$407,776
Revenue Notes Outstanding	\$427,522	\$407,776

The notes are payable solely from loan repayments to be made by health institutions pursuant to loan agreements. The notes do not constitute a debt or liability of the State of Montana.

B. Montana Economic Development Board (MEDB)

The following Stand-alone Industrial Revenue bonds were issued during fiscal year 1985-86:

<u>Issue</u>	Amount
Butler Creek Mt. Progress Limited Winter Sports	\$ 350,000 5,000,000 3,200,000
Farmers Union (Cenex)	3,925,000
Total	\$ <u>12,475,000</u>

One Stand-alone Industrial Revenue bond was issued in fiscal year 1986-87:

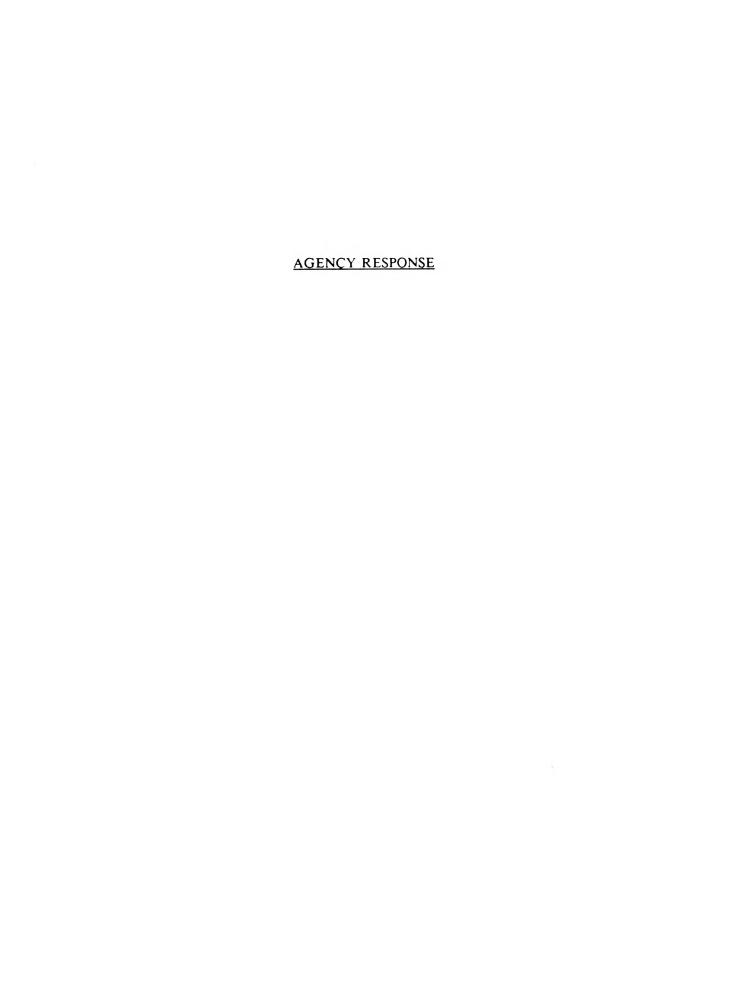
Zenith Management Company \$ 5,130,000

The bonds are payable solely from assets and revenues of the borrowers. The bonds do not constitute a debt or liability of the State of Montana.

10. ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Programs transferred to the department include the following:

- A. Video gaming from the Department of Revenue on April 1, 1987.
- B. Tramways from the Department of Administration on July 1, 1987.
- C. Board of Investments from the Department of Administration merged with the Montana Economic Development Board on July 1, 1987.
- D. Montana Outfitter's Council from the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks on October 1, 1987 which became the Board of Outfitters.



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



THE THAILTH GOVERNOR

1471 9TH AVENUE

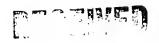
STATE OF MONTANA

40 444 34

HELENA MONTANA 59620 041

May 16,1988

Mr. Scott A. Seacat Legislative Auditor State Capitol Helena, MT 59620



MAY 1 . 1988

MONTANA I AUDITOR

Dear Mr. Seacat:

Enclosed is our response to the final report of the financial audit conducted by your office on the Department of Commerce.

Since the last departmental audit, more programs have been added to the department. At the same time, legislation took effect which increased the accounting and bookkeeping complexity through the requirement to account in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Considering that these changes were handled with no increase in staff, we are pleased with your assessment of our improvement.

In preparing our response to the audit, we have attempted to follow the guidelines prescribed by your office. I trust the form and content will meet with your approval.

Very truly yours,

Kuch L. Colli

Keith L. Colbo, Director

KLC'ms

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE RESPONSES TO AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION #1

We recommend the department implement procedures to ensure the gross housing rents comply with federal regulations.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. The department now has a new computer system on line which checks all gross rents against property rents and utility allowances, eliminating errors in calculations.

RECOMMENDATION #2

We recommend the department adequately safeguard housing assistance payment "hold" warrants.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. The Housing Assistance Bureau is in the process of ordering a desk with the security locking system necessary for safeguarding warrants. At this time, warrants are being locked in another desk.

RECOMMENDATION #3

We recommend the department implement procedures to ensure monthly housing assistance payments are proper.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. The Housing Assistance Bureau now calculates all payments through the new computer system. This system reconciles monthly payments with input documents.

RECOMMENDATION #4

We recommend the department establish accounts receivable on its accounting records for all Section 8 housing assistance overpayments.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. The Housing Assistance Bureau is now setting up accounts receivable in the new computer system in order to allow tracking of overpayments.

RECOMMENDATION #5

We recommend the department compile financial information using a consistent cutoff date for the annual Community Development Block Grant performance reports.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. Beginning with the 1987 report, a consistent cutoff date of June 30 was used, and will continue to be used.

RECOMMENDATION #6

We recommend the department:

A. correct the error on the Section 8 report.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. Correction of the S693 error appearing on the June 30, 1987 Section 8 Certificates Financial Report will be reflected on the report for the period ending June 30, 1988. This will be completed by Sept. 1, 1988.

B. submit reports within the time frame established by the federal grantor agency.

RESPONSE

The department conditionally concurs with the recommendation. The department will submit federal financial reports on all projects as soon as possible after the end of the fiscal period. Section 8 Financial Reports due during the fiscal year-end period will be completed as soon as possible, within constraints on personnel and subject to time available during the state fiscal year-end closing period.

RECOMMENDATION #7

We recommend the department implement procedures to ensure compliance with contracted service laws and regulations.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. The department initiated new internal contract procedures after receipt of the state contracted services audit. The department has since received the new Management Memo clarifying contracted services. Interim changes have been made to department policy to comply with the Management Memo. Management Services staff will be trained on the new state policy by June 16, 1988, and final changes to department contract policy will be in place by July 1, 1988.

Concerning the finding that 35 of 65 contracts reviewed did not contain required contract clauses, it should be noted that not all provisions apply to each contract. The

department has taken the position that inapplicable provisions will not be included in contracts.

RECOMMENDATION #8

We recommend the department continue to review its indirect cost proposals to ensure all carry-forward adjustments are included.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. We will continue to review the indirect cost proposal to ensure it is prepared properly. The amount of undercollection in fiscal year 1985-86 is being collected in fiscal year 1987-88.

RECOMMENDATION #9

We recommend the department implement a control system which will provide assurance of compliance with applicable statutes and administrative rules.

RESPONSE

The department conditionally concurs with the recommendation. A control system to monitor compliance with statutes and rules would be a positive benefit to our operation. Our ability to implement this recommendation is subject to existing staff and workloads. Within these constraints, staff attorneys will be directed to review applicable statutes and rules with program personnel periodically, with emphasis on compliance.

RECOMMENDATION #10

We recommend the department:

A. comply with established internal control procedures to ensure accurate processing of financial data and adequate safeguarding of assets.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. We will work with program personnel at fiscal year-end 1988 to ensure compliance with internal control procedures.

B. implement additional internal controls over cash receipts to ensure revenue is recorded in the proper fiscal year.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. We will notify all program personnel by June 15, 1988 concerning procedures for recording revenue at year-end to ensure that it will be recorded in the proper year.

RECOMMENDATION #11

We recommend the department continue to work towards maintaining its accounting records in accordance with state law.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation. We will continue to work toward this goal in all departmental financial record-keeping.

RECOMMENDATION #12

We recommend the department:

A. seek legislation to clarify the lottery statutes.

RESPONSE

The department concurs with the recommendation regarding Sections 23-5-1016(10) and 23-5-1017(3), MCA, but does not concur regarding Sections 23-5-1026 and 23-5-1027(1)(a), MCA.

The Lottery will seek legislation to clarify Section 23-5-1016(10), MCA to make it clear that the face value of tickets distributed to sales agents is the base for the 5% commission. The Lottery will seek legislation to clarify Section 23-5-1017(3), MCA to make it clear that tickets and chances may not be purchased on credit from a sales agent.

The Lottery believes that Section 23-5-1026 and Section 23-5-1027(1)(a), MCA, are definitive. The Lottery believes the statutes are clearly written and that it was never intended that the same base be used for prize payouts as for commissions and administrative expenses.

B. recognize prize expense related to the free ticket prizes.

RESPONSE

The department conditionally concurs. The Lottery decided to account for free tickets as a reduction in revenue and a cost of goods sold, rather than as revenue and expense because both methods have resulted in unqualified audit opinions in other states, and recognition of a free ticket as a dollar expense requires recognition of a dollar of revenue. The Lottery determines the number of free tickets in a game. Using the revenue and expense method, the number of free ticket prizes increases revenues without increasing sales. An artificial change in revenues also happens if the number of free ticket prizes decreases. The recognition of free ticket prizes as a dollar expense and a dollar revenue does not represent a conservative accounting approach.

The Lottery is providing complete information by recognizing the exact number of free tickets in a footnote on the

financial report and by recognizing the expense of printing the tickets as a cost of goods sold. Although the Lottery does not believe free tickets are a one dollar prize expense, it is willing to continue to study the prize expense issue based on decisions made by an authoritative body of the accounting profession. If it is determined that the prize expense is the face value of the tickets, the Montana Lottery will discontinue the use of free tickets and substitute a one dollar prize. If the accounting profession issues an opinion that the prize expense is higher than the cost of goods sold, the Lottery will adjust its accounting methods.



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